

INSIDE: WHEELS IN MOTION READY TO ROLL • A CENTURY OF GROWTH: VINELAND TURNS 100



Making a Match

If you have trouble deciding which wine goes with what food, help is on the way in the form of a new book by Prof. Bob Harrington, Hospitality and Tourism Management. See page 16. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

African-Canadian Achievement Award Goes to U of G Prof

Sociologist recognized for overall contributions to the arts

PROF. CECIL FOSTER, Sociology and Anthropology, is the 2006 recipient of the African-Canadian Achievement Award (ACAA) for arts and entertainment. Foster, who is considered one of Canada's leading intellectuals on issues of race, culture, citizenship and immigration, received the award May 27 at the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts in Toronto.

"It is always humbling to know that people think your work is worthy enough to merit this kind of recognition and that you are making a contribution to society," says Foster. "I hope this award will serve as a kind of inspiration for my students, my communities and the people with whom I work closely."

Foster received the award for his

overall contributions to the arts and entertainment, says ACAA executive producer Joan Pierre.

"Cecil does great research and really digs deep in his writing," she says. "Our awards committee has known his work for many years, so when we received his nomination, it wasn't a hard choice for us to honour him with this award."

A U of G faculty member since 2002, Foster is the author of several non-fiction and fiction books, including *Where Race Does Not Matter: The New Spirit of Modernity*, the award-winning *A Place Called Heaven: The Meaning of Being Black in Canada*, the memoir *Island Wings* and the novel *No Man in the House*. A former journalist and radio host, he also taught at Ryerson University.

Six to Receive Honorary Degrees at Convocation

First University of Guelph-Humber graduates to convocate June 19

UOF G WILL AWARD some 2,600 degrees and diplomas during eight convocation ceremonies June 12 to 15 in the Gryphon Dome. In addition, about 150 students will graduate from the University of Guelph-Humber at its inaugural convocation ceremony June 19 at 2:30 p.m. at the Pearson Convention Centre. Prof. Michael Nightingale, who served as Guelph-Humber's first vice-provost until his retirement last year, will receive the first honorary degree.

On the main U of G campus, honorary degrees will be presented to behavioural ecologist Sir John Krebs, Canadian military historian Terry Copp, human rights advocate Mu Sochua, Senator Donald Oliver and agroforestry expert P.K. Nair.

University professor emeritus status will be bestowed on three re-

tired faculty: Patrick Woo, Integrative Biology; Bill Langford, Mathematics and Statistics; and Jamie Snell, History. In addition, Prof. Fred Ramprasad, retired associate dean of the bachelor of science program, will be named a Fellow of the University.

Convocation begins June 12 with a 10 a.m. ceremony for the College of Biological Science and a 2:30 p.m. joint ceremony for CBS and the College of Physical and Engineering Science.

Krebs, who was knighted for his accomplishments as the founder of behavioural ecology, will give the convocation address and receive an honorary doctor of science degree at the morning ceremony. He is credited with advancing the understanding of food safety, human physiology and conservation biology. Principal

of Jesus College at the University of Oxford and an Honorary Fellow of Pembroke College, Krebs chaired the U.K. Foods Standards Agency from 2000 to 2005 and is a former chief executive of Britain's Natural Environmental Research Council.

Woo will also be honoured at the morning ceremony. An expert in fish diseases and immunology, he has been instrumental in developing vaccines for use in aquaculture and new techniques for studying fish disease. He retired from U of G in 2004 after 30 years as a faculty member.

At the afternoon ceremony, Ramprasad will be named a University Fellow and will give the convocation address. In addition to teaching zoology at U of G from 1967 to 2001, he was academic

Continued on page 10

Teamwork on Distance Music Course Wins 2006 Provost's Innovation Award

Course's innovative web-based components include virtual interactive keyboard

THE DESIGNERS of a distance education course that uses the Internet to teach beginner music students to sing music they've never heard before have received the 2006 Provost's Award for Innovation.

Prof. Alan Shepard, associate vice-president (academic), presented the award to Jennifer Knelman, a sessional instructor in the School of Fine Art and Music; John Cassidy, manager of distance education and distance education technologies in the Office of Open Learning; and Peter Wolf, manager of instructional development in Teaching Support Services, at the Teaching and Learning Innovation Conference May 16.

The team custom-designed a number of innovative web-based components for the course "Introduction to Musicianship," including a virtual interactive keyboard that offers recorded pitches and a virtual practice room that has unlimited access to rhythm sounds and music graphics to aid skills development.

In addition, the course boasts an online recording application for students to submit timed sight-singing exercises for assessment, an interactive online conferencing system and an online textbook with sound bytes and music graphics for demonstration.

The course also features a series of online quizzes designed for different learning styles, with emphasis on feedback.

The course was offered to students for the first time in the winter 2005 semester.

The teaching and assessment strategies made possible through technology and used in this course promote learning that is both active and interactive, says Knelman.

"There is an openness to trying new ideas at U of G and an atmosphere that welcomes innovation and encourages teachers to rise to the challenge," she says.

"It's particularly rewarding to envision a course like this and see it come to fruition. I'm thankful to the

music department for setting the wheels in motion and to the Office of Open Learning for its unwavering support. The University continues to show a willingness to be on the cutting edge of technological innovation, and I'm truly proud to be part of it."

Wolf says the course "is a great addition to Open Learning's already excellent distance offerings, and I'm proud to be part of the team that designed, developed and implemented this innovative and well-grounded course. It's truly an honour to receive this award."

Adds Cassidy: "As pleased as I am about being one of the award recipients, I'm even more pleased that this award exists to recognize the efforts of instructors such as Jennifer Knelman. She has long devoted herself not only to improving the quality of instruction in her online course but also to developing innovative ways of doing so, and it's very gratifying to see such dedication to teaching recognized."

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B of G Approves Plan to Deal With Deferred Maintenance

U of G has been authorized to borrow up to \$8.9 million in fiscal 2006/07

BY LORI BONA HUNT

RECOGNIZING the significant risk of critical deferred maintenance, Board of Governors has approved a plan that would allow the University to spend upwards of \$121 million over the next five years to address vital areas of concern.

B of G members were cautious in making the decision during the May 25 board meeting, but as governor Evan Siddall said: "When one balances the cost of borrowing the money to do this with the risk of taking no action, there really is no choice."

Currently, U of G's deferred-maintenance needs are estimated at about \$300 million, with a recent audit of Guelph's buildings and infrastructure confirming the scope and size of the problem. Campus buildings account for about \$215 million of that amount, residences require about \$40 million in repairs, and utilities infrastructure will require an additional \$45 million.

"Deferred maintenance on this campus has reached critical proportions," Robin Lee Norris, chair of B of G's Physical Resources and Property Committee, told the board.

On average, U of G receives only about \$1.7 million annually from the provincial government to address deferred-maintenance issues. In his review of Ontario's post-secondary system, Bob Rae recommended the province spend \$200 million a year to deal with deteriorating conditions of university facilities, but to date, no additional money has been earmarked.

Over the past two years, U of G has dealt with several critical deferred-maintenance issues on campus, including spending more than \$20 million to replace deteriorating utilities tunnels and steam lines, most of it financed through long-term borrowing.

"But this was just a beginning," Nancy Sullivan, vice-president (finance and administration), told At Guelph after the meeting. "For reasons of health, safety and continuity of operations, we can no longer postpone addressing the critical infrastructure needs across this campus."

B of G was presented with and approved a 10-year plan to establish priorities to deal with the most critical needs, ranging from roofs to utilities distribution and capacity.

"It's very important to point out that this will not necessarily reduce the size of the problem," Norris told the board. "It simply is to stop the backslide."

As a start to dealing with deferred maintenance, B of G approved a five-year capital renewal financing plan. It would allow U of G to borrow up to \$91 million, estimated to be the portion of the \$121 million that the University could not pay from its annual budgets or through the government grant.

The money would be used for deferred maintenance in buildings and utilities distribution, as well as to address major deferred maintenance in residence buildings and to provide certain esthetic upgrades to keep Guelph's student housing competitive.

The University will return to the board each year with an update on

progress and for approval to proceed to the next year of the plan. B of G must approve the borrowing on an annual basis.

In fiscal 2006/2007, the University has been authorized to borrow up to \$8.9 million. The amount that has to be borrowed may be reduced each year, depending on how much money the government provides to address deferred-maintenance issues. The more support, the less the University needs to borrow.

President Alastair Summerlee told B of G the decision to borrow the money was not an easy one. It comes at a great cost and may affect the University's credit rating, he said. It will also significantly increase the institution's potential debt load and repayment obligations.

But Guelph doesn't have another option, he said. Systemwide, Ontario universities are facing huge deferred-maintenance issues, "but contributing to our challenge is the fact that our buildings are the oldest, on average, in the Ontario system."

Several B of G members, along with chancellor Lincoln Alexander, expressed dismay over the situation and said they would support ongoing advocacy efforts — and initiate new ones — to draw government attention to the size of the problem.

In other board business, the results of elections to fill B of G's student seats and a staff/alumni seat were announced. Barb Caswell will serve as the graduate student representative, and John Coombs and Bree Walt will fill the undergraduate seats. Current board member Bill Teesdale was re-elected to represent staff/alumni.

Name Change for Colleges

THE REGIONAL agricultural colleges at Alfred, Kemptville and Ridgeway are sporting new names to reflect their membership in the U of G community.

The colleges, which are part of OAC, will now be known as Université de Guelph — Campus d'Alfred, University of Guelph — Kemptville Campus and University of Guelph — Ridgeway Campus.

The name change was formally announced in Alfred May 15 by Leona Dombrowsky, Ontario's minister of agriculture, food and rural affairs. While at Alfred, she also announced funding for the BioFuel and BioFood Research and Demon-

stration Farms Project. The ministry is providing \$250,000 for the project through its rural economic development program.

With the name change, each campus will adopt a new graphic logo that integrates the campus name with the University's distinctive identifier.

The name change "reinforces the integral role of the three regional campuses in the delivery of education, research and outreach programs for Ontario's agri-food and rural sectors," said president Alastair Summerlee. "It also supports the University's vision of developing regional innovation centres as part of

our multi-campus strategy."

In addition to diploma, certificate and continuing education programs currently offered, degree programming will be introduced at the regional campuses in September.

OAC dean Craig Pearson said Dombrowsky's announcement recognizes the evolution of the three regional campuses.

"They will become increasingly important access points for undergraduate and technical programs," he said. "The name change recognizes their national and, in some cases, international reputations for applied research for the benefit of Ontario."

at GUELPH

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ORLANDO LAUNCH SET

Orlando, a 3.5-million-word electronic textbase of the history of women's writing in the British Isles, co-edited by Prof. Susan Brown, English and Theatre Studies, will be launched June 7 at 2 p.m. in the Florence Partridge Room on the third floor of the McLaughlin Library. The event is free and open to the public.

UGFA VOTES TO CERTIFY

The U of G Faculty Association — an independent association since 1964 — voted in favour of becoming a formal trade union under the Ontario Labour Relations Act May 16. There were 510 uncontested ballots cast, and 65 per cent favoured certification. The association, which has about 830 members, represents faculty and professional librarians.

NAME CHANGE APPROVED

At the May 16 meeting of Senate, a name change was approved for the rural extension studies program in the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development. Effective September 2006, it will be called the capacity development and extension program.

MEMORIAL SERVICE PLANNED

A memorial service and tree dedication will be held June 4 at the Arboretum Centre for former Arboretum horticulturist Henry Kock, who died Dec. 25. A formal program begins at 1 p.m. with speakers and a tree dedication, to be followed by a video.

GET SET TO COUNT TO 10

Ten-digit dialling comes into effect in Guelph June 17. All local calls placed after this date will require callers to dial 10 digits — the area code followed by the phone number. Members of the University are reminded to make the necessary changes to programmed numbers on all telecommunication devices and to remove the bracket surrounding the area code in published materials. For more information, visit www.dial10.ca.

CONFERENCE TO FOCUS ON SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

U of G is hosting the international conference "Sustainable Livelihoods and Ecosystem Health: Informing Policy, Practice and Research" June 4 to 7. The gathering is expected to attract policymakers, researchers, practitioners and students from Canada, the United States and Europe. For details, visit the website www.uoguelph.ca/~sl-esh/index2.html.

HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE COUNSELLORS VISIT

Twenty high school guidance counsellors from the United States and British Columbia visited U of G this month as part of a tour organized in collaboration with York University, the University of Toronto and Ryerson University. At Guelph, they attended a presentation hosted by Mary Haggarty and Nicole Sheppard of Admission Services, toured the campus and met with staff and students.

Wheels in Motion Gets Ready to Roll

Event aims to raise funds, awareness for people with spinal cord injuries

BY LORI BONA HUNT

WHEELS IN MOTION returns to campus June 11 to raise money and awareness for people with spinal cord injuries. It begins at noon at the Athletics Centre and involves people walking, biking, wheeling or running a two-kilometre course on campus.

President Alastair Summerlee will again participate in a wheelchair, borrowing one from Cyndy McLean, director of U of G's Health and Performance Centre. Last year when he wheeled the course, it was one of the hottest, most humid days of the year.

"Needless to say, it was an eye-opening, challenging and tiring experience," he says.

This year, he will also spend an entire day in a wheelchair June 5 to help raise awareness of both Wheels in Motion and the challenges faced by people living with spinal cord injuries and other physical disabilities.

McLean says she appreciates the effort. "I'm all for putting people in wheelchairs for a day if it raises awareness," says the former marathon runner and elite-level athlete who was left paraplegic after falling more than 100 feet off a cliff in 2003.

"Usually the experience of being in a chair, even if it's just for a short time, gives people new understanding of the difficulties faced by people

with disabilities. They learn that little things they take for granted, like going to the library or crossing campus to get some lunch, can be a regular challenge for people in a wheelchair."

Since her accident, McLean has become known as a mentor and advocate for people and families who have loved ones with disabilities and was instrumental in bringing Wheels in Motion to Guelph for the first time in 2004. She is also a national ambassador for the Rick Hansen Foundation, headed by the Canadian Olympic wheelchair marathon champion who wheeled 40,000 kilometres to raise money and awareness for spinal cord research. Hansen also started the national Wheels in Motion initiative.

McLean was recently honoured for her advocacy efforts and for her involvement in Wheels in Motion and the Rick Hansen Foundation with a YMCA-YWCA Women of Distinction Award.

"Wheels in Motion is about more than raising awareness and improving the quality of life for people with spinal cord injuries," she says. "It's also about inspiring those around you to make a difference, and that's exactly what people have done by supporting this event."

Wheels in Motion events are held

in hundreds of communities across Canada and are run entirely by volunteers. U of G is the primary sponsor of the Guelph event. About half of the funds raised stay in the host community to fund high-priority needs and services; the remaining funds go to support national spinal cord research. Locally, the funding has gone to provide services, assistance and resources to people with spinal cord injuries.

In the past two years, more than 300 people have taken part in the Guelph event either as individuals or as part of a team, raising more than \$40,000. The Health and Performance Centre team, headed by McLean, raised more than \$24,000 of that amount. Last year, the team raised the second-highest amount of money of any team in Canada. As a prize, the team was awarded a wheelchair, which will go to Guelph elementary school student Terry Song, whose father, Leo, works in Computing and Communications Services.

Registration for this year's event begins at 11 a.m. at the Athletics Centre. To participate, contact McLean at cmclean@uoguelph.ca or Guelph Wheels in Motion chair Donna Leigh White at dwhite@tcn.com. Information is also available at www.rickhansen.com.

Couple and Family Therapy Program Marks 25 Years

Day-long event will celebrate grads and their achievements

BY REBECCA KENDALL

UOF G'S COUPLE and family therapy program, offered by the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, is marking 25 years of graduating students with a celebration June 17. The day-long event will include an open house, a luncheon and panel discussion and a lecture by an expert in family therapy.

"Our program has become increasingly well-known both with prospective students and with potential employers of our graduates," says Prof. Anna Dienhart, coordinator of the Couple and Family Therapy Centre and the graduate program.

"We offer the highest quality of training available, and our alumni are among the strongest in the field. The anniversary event will be a great opportunity to see where the careers of our graduates have gone and the work they're doing. It's about the people and celebrating their accomplishments."

The day begins with a free open house and meet-and-greet at the Couple and Family Therapy Centre

at 9 a.m. This will be followed by a luncheon and panel discussion from noon to 3 p.m. Guest speakers include University professor emeritus Claude Guldner, founding director of the centre; and retired family relations professor Judith Myers Avis, a former director of the centre who is internationally recognized for her work in feminist family therapy and working with survivors of sexual abuse. Also on the panel are Annette Dekker, president of the Ontario Association for Marriage and Family Therapy; and Karl Tomm, a professor of medicine and founder of the family therapy program at the University of Calgary.

Registration is required by June 5 to attend the luncheon and panel event. Cost is \$30. To register, call the Couple and Family Therapy Centre at Ext. 65426.

In addition, Tomm will give the Harshman Lecture on "Deconstructing Shame and Guilt, Opening Space for Apology, Forgiveness and Reconciliation" at 3:30 p.m. in War Memorial Hall. It is free and open to the public.

"There is wide public interest in

his area of research," says Dienhart, "and he offers a unique perspective."

U of G is one of only two universities in the country that offer a master's degree in couple and family therapy. Applications come from across the country and around the world. Six students are admitted each year, so admission is highly competitive, says Dienhart.

"This program has an excellent reputation, and it's kind of a hidden gem on campus. We offer therapy services to the public at a very reasonable cost and help a variety of people who are seeking change in difficult areas of their life."

"Our clientele is diverse, and we're committed to training our students about the various social, cultural, racial, ethnic, religious, gender and sexual orientation issues that are unique to our clients, so we can provide service that's meaningful for each of them, no matter how difficult their case or complicated the issue."

For more information, call Dienhart at Ext. 53975, send e-mail to adienhar@uoguelph.ca or visit the website www.family.uoguelph.ca.

people

WHITFIELD ELECTED FELLOW

Prof. Chris Whitfield, chair of the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, has been elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology. The honour recognizes his scientific achievements and original contributions that have advanced microbiology.

PRATSCHKE NAMED TO BOARD

Prof. John Pratschke, Jean Monnet Professor of European Integration Studies in the College of Management and Economics, was elected to serve a two-year term on the governing board of the European Community Studies Association — Canada (ECSA-C) at its sixth biennial conference in Victoria. He also presented a paper on "Celtic Tiger, Euro Passport?" at the meeting and was a panellist at the ECSA-C Young Researchers Network conference. Earlier this year, he spoke on "Cork 2005: European Capital of Culture 2005 and European Culture Policy" at the VIII Congress: Cultura Europea in Spain.

NUTRITIONIST GIVES TALKS

University professor emeritus Bruce Holub, Human Health and Nutritional Sciences, recently spoke on "Omega-3 Functional Foods for Human Health and Disease Prevention/Management" at Rutgers University. He also gave a keynote talk at the annual convention of the Massachusetts Dietetic Association, discussing "Omega-3 for Brain, Eye and Heart Health." In addition, he gave a seminar on "Omega-3 Fatty Acids for Brain and Cardiovascular Care" at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine in Sudbury.

KUDOS FOR FIRST NOVEL

Prof. David Walmer-Toews, Population Medicine, has won two awards for his first book of fiction, *One Foot in Heaven*. He received *ForeWord* magazine's 2005 Book of the Year silver medal in the short-story category and the Independent Publisher Book Award for best regional fiction for Canada-West.

CHANCELLOR A FINALIST

Chancellor Lincoln Alexander is a finalist in "The Greatest Hamiltonian" contest being run by the *Hamilton Spectator*. Vote online at hamiltonspectator.com/memory/form-greatesthamiltonian.html.

UN COMMISSION EXPLORES SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

U of G students Adam Scott and Jennie McDowell represented the University's Renewable Energy Group and Canadian youth at the UN Commission on Sustainable Development May 1 to 12 in New York City. Youth from around the world participated in discussions on climate change, air pollution, energy and industrial sustainability.

COACH ON NATIONAL STAFF

Women's volleyball coach Paul Funk will serve on the staff of Canada's women's volleyball team for the month of June. He will join Team Canada for matches in Ontario against Poland, then travel to Winnipeg to prepare for the Pan-Am Cup in Puerto Rico.

Working Women More Influenced by Family Pressures Than Men Are: Study

Men tend to put up 'huge boundaries' around their work to keep family life from interfering, says psychology prof

BY RACHELLE COOPER

EVEN THOUGH Statistics Canada reports that more women of working age have jobs than ever before, there is still a gender gap when it comes to family pressures, say Prof. Karen Korabik and researcher Allyson McElwain of the Department of Psychology.

They've found that even when men and women have the same family responsibilities, are pursuing identical careers and work the same number of hours, family demands tend to interfere more with women's careers than with men's.

"Because men often see themselves as the primary breadwinner, they will put up huge boundaries around their work so their family life doesn't interfere with their work responsibilities," says Korabik. "Women who make as much money as men still tend to be the ones to leave work if their child is sick or to get phone calls from their kids while at the office."

Korabik and McElwain, who published their findings in the *Canadian Journal of Behavioural Science*, surveyed 1,600 people for their study and matched 160 women to 160 men with similar work and family responsibilities. Family demands were measured by the participants' number of children and the ages of their children.

"Literature has shown that people who have more children, particularly more preschool children, have higher family demands," says Korabik.

Although the men and women included in the study had similar family demands, that doesn't mean the men let their family interfere

with their work, says Korabik.

"Our study results indicate that women are the ones spending more time with their family, so it's natural that their home life ends up interfering more with their job."

Because people are expected to be at their jobs for a set number of hours and to get a certain amount of work done, people arrange their family life around work in most instances, says Korabik.

"People will put up boundaries

around their work, but family boundaries have become more permeable. This results in parents missing their child's soccer games or bringing work home so that when they are home, they aren't spending time with their family."

Women with a family who are committed to their career aren't necessarily asking to work fewer hours, says Korabik.

"But they'd often like to have more flexibility in choosing their

hours and have the ability to work from different locations at times."

Surprisingly, the women and men surveyed from across Canada holding full-time positions in financial, telecommunications, accounting and engineering professions felt equal satisfaction with their families and careers, says Korabik.

"Despite women reporting more work interference with family, their levels of satisfaction with their family, job and life were similar."

By understanding how family pressures may differ for men and women, companies can design organizational programs and initiatives to better meet their employees' needs, she says.

"It's obvious that the redistribution of household roles between men and women hasn't occurred, so maybe organizations need to have policies in place that cater to women who have heavier demands from their family."

Getting to the Seat of the Problem

Robots allow researchers to mimic the whole-body vibrations heavy-equipment operators experience on the job

BY RACHELLE COOPER

BEING THROWN in every direction while buckled into a seat may be fun during a short amusement ride, but for many industrial machinery operators, it's an ongoing part of the job and often results in health problems. Prof. Jim Dickey of the Department of Human Health and Nutritional Sciences is using state-of-the-art robots to mimic the vibrations that heavy-equipment operators feel on the job to find ways to lessen back pain and associated problems.

It's estimated that six per cent of employees in Canada are exposed to potentially harmful levels of whole-body vibration. These workers are about four times more likely to develop low back pain and may suffer from other problems such as herniated lumbar discs, neck-shoulder pain and intestinal upsets, says Dickey.

Although it's known that heavy-equipment operators are getting injured from long-term whole-body vibrations, little is known about how vibrations along the body's three different axes cause pain and discomfort, he says. Now that U of G has one of only a handful of "six degrees of freedom" robots in the world with the capacity to move along the three axes, he and his research team can simulate the motions of a vehicle on unpredictable terrain in his lab.

"We're going into mines and logging and heavy-construction sites to measure the acceleration, velocities and jerk that drivers are exposed to, then we feed that profile into the robot and the robot re-creates it," says Dickey. "We're interested in figuring out the relationship between these motion patterns and comfort."

The researchers are placing industrial car seats, complete with seat belt, footrest and steering wheel or joystick, on the robot platform to

simulate the operator's environment as closely as possible. Study participants sit in the seats and are taken on what looks like a bucking bronco ride.

"The motion is quite irregular," says Dickey. "It's got all sorts of complicated aspects. We can't give people five years' worth of exposure, but vibrations that result in injuries are also going to result in discomfort. By rating their discomfort on a scale of one to 10, people can really perceive differences in comfort based on differences in acceleration."

Vibrations felt by forestry, mining and construction operators are the worst-case scenarios, he says.

"Forestry skidders are going over logs and huge bumps, dragging logs from one spot to another. Because it's an extreme example, the accelerations the operators are exposed to allow us to understand the participants' responses to vibration along or about the three axes."

Participants will sit in the different commercially available machine seats to determine how each one handles the pulses.

"Describing the vibration will be a huge help to seat designers because right now they're designing chairs without knowing the full characteristics of the environment the chairs are working in," says Dickey.

To learn as much as possible about full-body vibrations, he has assembled a multidisciplinary team of researchers from four universities to look at the issues facing operators from engineering, psychological and biological perspectives. Here at Guelph, Prof. Michele Oliver, Engineering, will run the forestry part of the study, and Prof. Lana Trick, Psychology, will lend her expertise in the psychology of pain and discomfort. A U of G biophysics PhD candidate is looking at how vibrations transmit up the spine and the role posture plays in a driver's comfort.

Guelph Hosts HIV/AIDS Researchers From Africa

Pilot project allows U of G to offer visiting researchers resources and equipment they don't have access to in their home countries

BY RACHELLE COOPER

U OF G IS HOSTING two HIV/AIDS researchers from Africa to help give them access to resources and equipment not available in their home countries. Guelph is one of three Canadian universities taking part in the Foreign Affairs Canada pilot project.

The goal of the project is to pro-

vide greater opportunities for students from developing countries who are doing HIV/AIDS research to participate in existing exchange programs.

Yirenya-Tawiah, a graduate student in zoology at the University of Ghana, has just returned to Africa after spending 11 weeks at U of G furthering her study of the relationship between HIV/AIDS and genital

schistosomiasis (GS), a tropical disease. GS, which can be medically treated, is contracted through contact with water and has symptoms that include painful urination and blood in the urine.

"About two-thirds of the population of Ghana is exposed to schistosomiasis because there are many slow-flowing bodies of water infected with parasites that people need to access for occupational and domestic needs," she says.

Once parasites make contact with the genital area, they can cause lesions and open up the way for the transmission of various diseases, including HIV/AIDS, says Yirenya-Tawiah.

"Since GS can be treated, if the drug for treating schistosomiasis were more widespread and affordable, we could potentially decrease

the chances of people in endemic communities contracting HIV/AIDS."

During her stay in Guelph, she spent most of her time researching methods of voluntary counselling and testing.

"It's difficult to do thorough research in Ghana because the libraries aren't as well-stocked with recent publications and Internet access is erratic," she says. "Since we have to screen people for schistosomiasis and HIV/AIDS for my study, there was a need to review literature on how voluntary counselling and testing have been applied in other places and how we can adapt lessons from other places back at home."

Guelph served as a home base for Yirenya-Tawiah to access University of Toronto and McMaster libraries and researchers and to attend

HIV/AIDS-related conferences in Toronto. She lauds U of G's Centre for International Programs (CIP) for the support it provided in making connections with researchers at other universities.

CIP director Lynne Mitchell is now preparing for the June 7 arrival of the second African researcher — Leshern Karamchand of the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Durban, South Africa.

During his three months at Guelph, he will be using the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology's two-laser scanning confocal microscope, a piece of equipment he doesn't have access to in South Africa. The microscope, which can manipulate the wavelengths of light, will allow Karamchand to study lipid rafts found on the plasma membrane of certain cells.



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Prof. Rob McLaughlin will work with U.S. research partners on improved control of a Great Lakes invader.
PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Biologist to Explore New Controls for Sea Lamprey

CBS prof gets new funding from Great Lakes Fishery Commission

BY ANDREW VOWLES

DEVISING BETTER WAYS to control the impact of a stubborn invader on lucrative Great Lakes fisheries is the goal of a newly funded study being launched by Prof. Rob McLaughlin, Integrative Biology.

Using a two-year grant worth \$145,000 US from the Great Lakes Fishery Commission (GLFC), the Guelph biologist will look into the effectiveness of physical and biological treatments to control sea lamprey in the Great Lakes.

McLaughlin plans to work with a cross-border team of scientists and engineers to investigate stream barriers, traps and biological treatments. He will bring his expertise in animal behaviour and movement to learn more about what governs the movement of lamprey.

"Could we exploit these rules to improve traps and barriers?" he says. "We're hoping it's going to significantly improve opportunities to control lamprey."

Fisheries in the Great Lakes are worth up to \$4 billion a year. Nearly five million people fish in the basin, an industry that supports thousands of jobs. Since the GLFC was established in 1955, sea lamprey control has been a major contributor to the health of the fishery.

Sea lamprey accidentally introduced to the Great Lakes had threat-

ened to wipe out many native fish species. Control efforts by the commission and its partners — from government departments to U of G researchers — have largely contained the threat to some 200 of 5,700 streams in the basin.

That control has mostly involved chemical treatment of streams to kill larvae. Today, with chemical costs rising in pace with concerns over the attendant environmental effects of those substances, authorities are seeking other ways to keep a lid on the population.

The researchers will study how lamprey behave around barriers and traps designed to arrest their upstream migration to spawning areas. They also plan to see whether pheromones — chemicals used by the creatures to communicate — might help improve trapping success.

By linking movement paths with flow models, they hope to determine movement rules used by juvenile salmon on the Columbia River and extend those rules to sea lamprey.

The project involves researchers with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and civil engineers from the Iowa HydroScience Research Center, who will model water flows and lamprey movements. The study will start this spring at the Hammond Bay Biological Station run by the U.S. Geological Survey in Michigan.

McLaughlin says that, besides improving control, trapping would be less costly than chemicals, would help researchers improve population estimates and would provide candidates for a sterile male release program intended to reduce sea lamprey spawning success. Barriers and traps are already used in parts of the Great Lakes basin.

Here at Guelph, he will work with master's student Greg Elliott on this project and a companion project involving tagging thousands of lamprey and using antenna arrays to track their movements.

McLaughlin belongs to GLFC task forces on sea lamprey barriers and trapping. He came to U of G in 2002 to fill one of two tenure-track positions under an ecosystem program funded by the GLFC.

He also hopes to land funding this year to create a web-based version of a database developed in his lab over the past two years. The database, called Fish MAP (Migration and Passage), contains detailed lists of all fish species found in watersheds feeding the Great Lakes.

McLaughlin says the database would be used by fisheries managers and planners installing sea lamprey barriers to learn about possible impacts on various fish species, including fish classified as threatened or endangered.

The last issue of At Guelph for the summer semester will appear June 14. Copy deadline is June 6.

Food Scientists Find Effective Way to Clean Produce

Hydrogen peroxide, UV light shut down microbes

BY RACHELLE COOPER

BUYING PREWASHED lettuce can save you time, but it can also make you sick, as close to two dozen U.S. consumers discovered last year. Now U of G food scientists have found a more effective way of cleaning vegetables that can reduce the risk of contamination.

"Pathogens can actually get into the internal tissue of the lettuce," says Prof. Keith Warriner, Food Science. "You can wash it for as long as you like, but you're not going to remove all the pathogens because they can hide in cut edges and the pores of the lettuce leaves."

When lettuce is harvested for bagged salads, it's kept cool in containers of water, then is washed again at the processing plant, he says. "If the water is contaminated, which it sometimes is, bacteria will be passed onto the lettuce, and simple washing can't remove them."

This could be what happened in October 2005 when 23 people in three states became sick from eating lettuce contaminated with *E. coli* O157:H7, says Warriner. Most people aren't aware that, next to ground beef, fresh produce is the most common culprit in food-borne illness, he adds.

At least 19 food-borne illness outbreaks have been linked to leafy greens since 1995, resulting in two deaths and 425 people becoming seriously ill, according to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

To find a way to eliminate pathogens in vegetables, Warriner, along with researcher Christina Hajdok, decided to apply the same method used to decontaminate food cartons. Like fresh produce, the surface of carton packaging material is full of crevices that can provide protective sites for microbes. Milk, juice and soup cartons are sterilized by being sprayed with hydrogen peroxide and illuminated with UV light at the same time. The UV light converts the hydrogen peroxide into

antimicrobial free radicals that penetrate into the packaging material to inactivate microbes.

To test this method on produce, Warriner artificially contaminated tomatoes, cauliflower, iceberg lettuce, romaine lettuce, Spanish onions and broccoli with *Salmonella*. After "cleaning" the vegetables using the hydrogen peroxide/UV method, "we managed to achieve 99.999-per-cent inactivation of the *Salmonella*," he says.

This inactivation is huge in food-safety terms. "It's what has been deemed to be the level of reduction of microbes required for a successful fresh produce decontamination."

Warriner says the good thing about hydrogen peroxide and UV is that "they make free radicals that can penetrate right into the subsurface of vegetables, so we can ensure the pathogens in the lettuce leaf can be inactivated, something washing cannot do."

He notes that people eating vegetables cleaned by this method don't actually consume any hydrogen peroxide. Plants contain enzymes called catalase that degrade hydrogen peroxide into water.

"These free radicals are so short-lived that within seconds they do their job and are converted to water as the byproduct."

Warriner has determined the optimal levels of hydrogen peroxide and exposure time.

"If there are too many radicals, they react with each other and fail to reach the microbes," he says. "When an optimal hydrogen peroxide level is applied, the free radicals are dilute enough to prevent the antimicrobial ions from binding together before they reach the intended target."

Next, he will test his decontamination method on produce contaminated with *E. coli* O157:H7 and viruses to show the true potential of the system. This new way of cleaning produce will not only make food safer to consume, but it should also extend product shelf life, he says.

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A Pregnancy Puzzle

Scientist expects new research model will help answer questions about pre-eclampsia

BY ANDREW VOWLES

"IT'S BIZARRE," says Prof. Coral Murrant, Human Health and Nutritional Sciences. Two years ago, she began studying pre-eclampsia, a dangerous complication that strikes midway through about five per cent of all pregnancies. A leading cause of maternal and fetal death, the condition involves a dramatic rise in blood pressure in pregnant women that requires emergency delivery of the premature infant. Murrant herself has delivered two babies without incident, but within the past 18 months, her younger sister has seen two pregnancies cut short. Neither baby survived. The cause: pre-eclampsia.

"That strengthens my resolve to try to help out in this area," says the U of G graduate turned faculty member who hopes to use a new research model at Guelph to find a treatment for the condition.

Murrant is collaborating with Prof. Anne Croy, who studied cells at the fetal-maternal interface in the Department of Biomedical Sciences before taking up a Canada Research Chair at Queen's University in 2004. Along with researchers at the University of Western Ontario and the Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, they received a three-year \$500,000 grant from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. That funding will end next year.

In what Murrant calls a turning point in her own research, she and graduate student Sean Leonard are now ready to use a specially modified upright microscope to examine blood vessels in a live anesthetized mouse model. They hope to get a clearer picture than they would by relying on histological sections of dead tissue.

"That's our role in the collaborative grant," she says, explaining that this is the only system of its kind for studying blood vessels involved in pre-eclampsia.

They've already begun collecting video footage. She expects to study basic physiology of maternal blood vessels, including blood flow, shear stress on blood vessel walls, permeability and changing vessel diameter.

Pre-eclampsia normally occurs in a woman in the second half of pregnancy. The only treatment is to deliver the fetus, even though few are viable if pre-eclampsia hits early. Left untreated, the condition becomes eclampsia, which may result in maternal seizure or death.

The researchers believe that modification of so-called spiral arteries is an important step in ensuring normal maternal blood pressure. Coiled like bedsprings, these vessels carry blood to the placenta, which in turn delivers oxygen and nutrients to the developing fetus. The researchers have found that these arteries become dilated in normal pregnancies but remain unmodified



Prof. Coral Murrant says the more she learns about pregnancy, the more the process astounds her. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

in cases of pre-eclampsia and premature birth.

"We think lack of modification is part of the problem," says Murrant.

They've also shown that spiral arteries are the meeting place for fetal tissue cells called trophoblasts and maternal uterine natural killer cells. Without that cellular rendezvous, pre-eclampsia may occur.

Murrant's original interest lies in the relationship between skeletal muscle and blood flow. She hopes to learn more about that relationship, including how blood flow to requisite active muscles occurs. In effect, how do muscle cells talk directly to blood vessels?

The more she learns about pregnancy, the more the process astounds her — something that hardly abated when she became a mom herself.

"The set of events that has to occur is unbelievably elegant and complex. There's no simple way of explaining what's going on from implantation of the embryo to the fetus to the whole child. The fact that it does work to me is mostly unbelievable. There are so many steps that can go wrong. It's unbelievable to think that we're as successful as we are."

At the same time, Murrant points out that much of the process remains a mystery.

"Pregnancy in humans is such an unknown state. You don't want to intervene in what's going on inside a pregnant woman for fear of hurting the baby."

Ultimately she hopes to help

identify some indicator that would alert doctors to potential problems.

Glancing at the photos of her sons that paper over part of one office wall, she says: "Because I have two beautiful kids of my own, I can't imagine going through family problems at five, six, seven months. You get over the three-month hurdle and think all is good. Suddenly your blood pressure starts to rise and it's all over."

Murrant completed her undergraduate degree and a doctorate at Guelph in human kinetics. During back-to-back post-docs, she studied skeletal muscle at Baylor College of Medicine in Texas and microvasculature at the University of Rochester in New York. She joined the faculty of U of G in 2000 and received a Premier's Research Excellence Award in 2003.

Seven Guelph-Led Projects Receive AFMNet Funding

Research to help strengthen links between diet and health

BY ANDREW VOWLES

"EAT BETTER, LIVE BETTER" might be the theme for seven U of G-led research projects in food and biomaterials to receive a total of more than \$5 million from the Guelph-based Advanced Foods and Materials Network (AFMNet).

U of G investigators will head national research teams on projects ranging from understanding consumer acceptance of functional foods and nutraceuticals to identifying risks of novel plant and animal food products to studying bacteria and biofilms.

"These are issues that are high on the agendas of a lot of consumers and companies in food and health," says Prof. Rickey Yada, AFMNet's scientific director.

The U of G funding is part of \$12 million to come from AFMNet over the next three years for 20 projects involving researchers across Canada. More than 75 researchers at 21 universities will study topics such as microbial agents and food safety, nutrigenomics and biomarkers of chronic disease, and the impact of Canada's natural health product regulations.

AFMNet was launched in 2003 with \$8 million in federal funding for 49 projects. The new funding was announced during the network's second annual scientific conference in May.

The organization is the only one of 23 federal Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) to focus on food research. The NCE program is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, and Industry Canada. AFMNet will also receive \$3 million in funding from industry and other public-sector partners.

The new projects were selected from 69 proposals this year. Each project will be led by one or more expert researchers, who will co-ordinate a national team of investigators.

Researchers from the College of

Biological Science, the College of Physical and Engineering Science, the Ontario Agricultural College and the College of Arts will lead seven projects, as follows:

- Prof. John Dutcher, Physics, and Terry Beveridge, Molecular and Cellular Biology (MCB): "Bacteria, Biofilms and Foods." Beveridge will also lead a project on bacterial porin proteins and antimicrobial properties.
- Prof. Jacek Lipkowski, Chemistry: "Protein and Peptide Self-Assembly."
- Prof. Yoshinori Mine, Food Science: "Functional Peptides and Amino Acids to Improve Gut Health."
- Prof. David Castle, Philosophy: "Social Issues in Nutritional Genomics."
- Prof. Spencer Henson, Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics: "Understanding Consumer Acceptance of Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals."
- Prof. Cecil Forsberg, MCB: "Novel Plant and Animal Food Product Assessment and Risk Identification."

Network researchers have already contributed to understanding of natural health products, a fast-growing but still largely unregulated market, says Yada.

"We've helped regulators define what consumers are concerned about, and we've identified some hurdles that in industry needs to tackle when they go for approval."

Dutcher also leads one of three AFMNet theme areas on structure-dynamics-function of foods and biomaterials.

Yada says the new projects will help strengthen links between diet and health, particularly strategies for promoting healthy lifestyles that may ultimately reduce health-care costs.

"If we continue with current trends, we cannot sustain the economy of the country because it's going to be consumed by health-care costs. We have to reduce the amount of disease treatment."

Sexuality Conference June 10 to 13

THE 28TH ANNUAL Guelph Sexuality Conference runs June 10 to 13 at U of G. Launched in 1978, the conference is recognized as Canada's largest and longest-running annual training and educational forum for sexual health professionals.

Focusing on the theme "Sexual Health for All: Promotion, Prevention, Advocacy," this year's conference will bring together more than 400 educators, nurses, physicians, therapists, social workers, clergy, students and other health professionals.

The program includes a workshop on intersexuality, the rarely talked-about condition in which physical sexual anatomy is either mixed or ambiguous at birth. Other topics include sexual rights and health of people

with disabilities, teen sex and sibling incest. Sessions related to sexually transmitted infections and the relationship between sex and religion are also planned.

"Despite some greater openness and willingness to talk about sexual concerns, there are still many individuals and communities who are denied information, are marginalized or are voiceless," says retired family relations professor Richard Barham, chair of the conference planning committee.

"This year's conference will help professionals working in the area of sexual health move a little further on the road towards inclusiveness in providing for the health and well-being of an even greater part of our highly diverse community."

OVC Dean Takes the Reins and Runs With Them

*First woman to head a veterinary school in Canada
has been going non-stop since arriving at Guelph last June*

By BARRY GUNN

A YEAR AGO, she could have been forgiven for feeling that she was about to be snowed under, in more ways than one. Prof. Elizabeth Stone had given up a comfortable position as head of the clinical sciences department at North Carolina State University and was about to become dean of the Ontario Veterinary College, a venerable institution at a major crossroads in its history. The accomplished veterinary urologist and surgeon was packing up her life, along with her 19-year-old daughter, two dogs and a cat, and starting a new job in a new country.

In many ways, Stone was taking a major leap into the unknown, although she suspected the dire warnings from friends about life in the frozen northern wastelands of Ontario were not entirely accurate.

"I really like living in Guelph," she says. "I like it even more now that it's warmer. But even the winter wasn't that bad. I understand it was relatively mild by Ontario standards, but the way people were talking when I moved up here, I was expecting total whiteouts and months of darkness. But it was fine — lots of sunshine and not too cold."

Stone jokes that perhaps the drafty rental she called home for several months helped her adapt to the climate.

"I don't think it ever got warmer than 18 C inside," says the Arizona native, who recently bought a house with a fully functional furnace near the U of G campus.

"I love the lifestyle here. I can walk to work, walk downtown to the Farmers' Market, walk the dogs. It's a wonderful community."

Stone, the first woman to head a veterinary school in Canada, took the reins at OVC last June and has been galloping virtually non-stop ever since. The college will celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2012, and plans are well under way for an unprecedented redevelopment of its facilities and expansion of its programs. At the same time, OVC faculty, administration, staff and students have been asked to "think big" while learning to do more with less at a time of University-wide fiscal restraint.

In the fall, OVC launched an integrated planning process, making a concerted effort to use the University-mandated five-year plan as a stepping-off point for a new vision for the college. The result is a strategic plan that channels the college's strengths in interdisciplinary research, learning and veterinary practice. It boldly stakes out OVC's territory as an internationally renowned and respected leader working at the intersections of animals, people and the environment.

Perhaps even more impressive than the document itself, however, was the grassroots process at the heart of it, bringing together key people at all levels of the college's operations.

"The community really came together," says Stone. "We've laid out the broad strokes in the integrated plan. Just what initiatives, facilities and programs take shape will depend on individual champions in our various areas of expertise. Those leaders will come from faculty, students and staff as well as our supporters in the general public."



Much of her time over the last several months has been spent listening and learning. On behalf of the college, she has met with hundreds of alumni and OVC's extended family in Guelph and across Ontario, in Alberta and British Columbia and in several U.S. states.

Meeting the likes of champion equestrian Ian Millar, former OVC principal Trevor Lloyd Jones and prominent alumni such as Norman "Lew" McBride (OVC '38), Blake Graham (OVC '51) and Lynette Corbeil (OVC '62) confirmed what Stone already knew: that she is fortunate to be in a special place at a challenging and exciting time for the college and for the veterinary profession.

"People have been very welcoming," she says. "Even though OVC is a place with a long and proud history, people have been very open to new ideas."

Change and new ideas are definitely in the air with new people in key positions. Since Stone's arrival, OVC has welcomed a new chair of the Department of Biomedical Sciences as well as eight new faculty members, plus a new director of advance-

ment. The college has also been interviewing candidates for the position of chair of the Department of Population Medicine and, in the coming months, hopes to hire a new director for the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

The strategic plan, built on a foundation laid down by former dean Alan Meek, is also starting to bear fruit. In March, the provincial government announced that \$25 million from its budget would go to OVC to support infrastructure for a new Animal Health Laboratory (AHL) and research and classroom facilities. The funds are in addition to \$37.3 million promised by the federal government in 2003 and will strengthen OVC's role in protecting public health — a key goal in the strategic plan — with an emphasis on food safety, biosecurity and research into emerging animal diseases such as avian flu that may pose a risk to human health.

Construction of a new building that will house the AHL and the Department of Pathobiology will begin in 2008. It will be located on Gordon Street just south of the historical OVC main building and adjacent to the Lifetime Learning Centre.

The site will also be home to the Centre for Public Health and Zoonoses, an initiative led by key people in the departments of Pathobiology and Population Medicine. The college has applied to the Canada Foundation for Innovation for a \$10.8-million grant to get the centre up and running.

"A lot of this was already under way before I arrived, of course," says Stone. "But I'm excited about the possibilities of the Centre for Public Health and Zoonoses. It will be a clear demonstration of OVC's commitment to meeting the changing needs of society."

It also fits with her long-term goals.

"My overall vision is to help bring about a shift in how society values veterinarians and the veterinary profession, so that in every interaction with their family vet, people recognize that they are there to see a true health professional."

It's a bit like putting together a jigsaw puzzle — once the key pieces are in place, the overall picture becomes clearer, she says. Building a new home for the Department of Pathobiology will free up badly needed space to redevelop the teaching hospital and expand its programs. High-priority areas for the hospital include a new centre for cancer in small animals and new clinical facilities for OVC's equine patients.

"You never really know what the job will be like until you arrive," says Stone. "I've enjoyed interacting with the other deans, and I've been impressed with the way faculty are actively involved in the way the University is run."

One thing she didn't anticipate was the amount of time she'd have to clock on the job "after hours" — nights and weekends spent planning and making contacts at conferences and official functions, working lunches and dinners. Fortunately, with her children grown and only her pets to look after, she has a pretty flexible schedule, she says. "Plus I don't need to spend a lot of time grocery shopping."

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A Century of Growth:

BY ANDREW VOWLES

TALK ABOUT DEEP ROOTS. Ray Kaczmarzki has worked at the Horticultural Experiment Station in Vineland for 18 years, but in a sense, he's been here all his life. Now research station manager at U of G's Vineland campus — marking its centennial in 2006, nine years after the University took over its operations — he traces his connections here all the way back to childhood. Having grown up on a 15-acre fruit farm just a few minutes' drive away, he remembers his father's periodic visits to the station for advice and help with crop questions.

"When I was a kid, this place was known as the experimental farm," says Kaczmarzki, a graduate of U of G's Ridgetown Campus and a Guelph horticulture diploma grad. "This was the place you went to for information."

That's still true. Now running that nearby farm with his own family, he grows varieties of tender fruit, including peaches and plums developed on the Vineland campus and now grown in orchards across the Niagara fruit belt and further afield.

In his office — the one adorned with a massive oil portrait of Vineland native and philanthropist Moses Rittenhouse, who donated the farm to establish the station in 1906 — Kaczmarzki is now well-placed to take home all the information he needs from the station's varied research agenda, from ideas about new fruit varieties to orchard management to environmental issues. From field research to farm: he's an example of the kind of research/grower links that have driven the station's research agenda for the past century.

Celebrating a Century of Success, 1906-2006 is the title of a commemorative history book published in mid-February that traces the past 100 years, beginning with the establishment of the station as a service to growers and the horticultural industry. It's also the tagline on the sign erected near the entrance to the property, a 75-minute drive from Guelph that takes visitors into the heart of Niagara vineyard and orchard country.

The entrance is also marked by the signature stone bridge built in 1906 over a stream on the property — a bridge that, perhaps predictably, is seized upon by Prof. Danny Rinker, Plant Agriculture, as a metaphor for the station's role.

"We aim to be a bridge between growers and researchers," says Rinker, chair of the centennial celebration committee but perhaps better known to growers across Canada and abroad as the "Mushroom Man."

He's one of four faculty members from the Department of Plant Agriculture who work in Vineland, including one researcher whose appointment is split between Vineland and a sister U of G research station in Simcoe. Rinker, a native of mushroom country in Pennsylvania's Chester County, arrived 21 years ago. Eyecing his concrete-block research building among the numerous greenhouses and utility buildings that have sprouted on the property like, well, mushrooms, he says: "It's the only university facility in all of Canada devoted to the



Prof. John Cline studies cultural management.

production of mushrooms."

A former high school science teacher who returned to university to study insects, he trained in mushroom entomology. At Vineland, he developed a treatment regimen for combating green mould, working with technician Glen Alm and Al Castle of Brock University. In the early and mid-1990s, this fungal disease threatened to wipe out much of Ontario's mushroom crop, now worth more than \$160 million a year. At the time, the disease was found on two out of three farms in the

province. Since Rinker identified the culprit species and developed a hygiene management technique for growers, only minor "flare-ups" occur today.

Back in the station building, his main-floor office is the one with the collection of whimsically decorated mushroom figurines, including a waist-high polka-dotted model standing behind his desk. That building is flanked by offices and research facilities of provincial and federal governments. To the south is the red-brick building that houses both the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. To the north stands the home of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

Those buildings, along with greenhouses and field plots where researchers test rootstocks and cultivars and study orchard management practices, are located on the original property between the Queen Elizabeth Way and the Lake Ontario shore. The station also includes Victoria Farm, an additional 100-acre spread just across the highway, where faculty and three technicians conduct experiments for breeding programs, production trials, fruit quality and other tests on cherries, peaches and plums.

A 35-acre parcel closer to the foot of the Niagara Escarpment contains the grape research station. That's home to the research program of Prof. Helen Fisher, who first visited Vineland as a summer student in 1969. She finished a B.Sc. in horticulture at Guelph a year later and began a master's degree with a Vineland researcher studying peach canker.

She has studied the development and management of grape vines, including developing cultivars that are grown in several U.S. states. Over the next five years, she expects to develop named varieties of table and wine grapes for eastern Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Minnesota.

For the past five years, Fisher has studied environmental issues, including organic management practices and use of waste paper from area paper mills for improving soil drainage. Those are examples of environmental research conducted at Vineland, from recycling of nutrients and water to trickle irrigation for water management in orchards to non-chemical growth retardant for plants.

Ask her about the most important contribution of the grape research program and she points to the Niagara microclimate zone map published in 1974. The map, showing growing zones and airflow throughout the Niagara Peninsula, was developed through a



Early members of the Vineland Horticultural Experiment Station.

remote sensing survey by Vineland researchers. Pinpointing areas of greater or lesser risk of frost damage, the map has been used by growers in planning and expanding vineyards.

Besides those vineyards, the peninsula is home to Ontario's tender fruit industry. Much of the crop growing here and in other parts of Canada, as well as vegetables and ornamentals, has been developed at Vineland.

About 70 per cent of the varieties of processing peaches grown in the Niagara Peninsula trace their ancestry back to the station, says Prof. Jay Subramanian, Plant Agriculture. Sweet cherries grown throughout the region — particularly self-fruitful types that, unlike natural cherries, don't need a second tree to pollinate — also originated here in the station's breeding program.

Having inherited the program from his predecessors, Subramanian concentrates on breeding peaches as well as plums and cherries. His goal is to lengthen the harvest season, particularly for peaches. Normally trees imported from elsewhere yield fruit from mid-August to early September, but that's no longer good enough for processors looking for fresh peaches from July through October.

History of Vineland Campus

THE VINELAND HORTICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION was established in 1906 on a 90-acre farm donated by Moses Franklin Rittenhouse. Born in Vineland in 1846, Rittenhouse went to Chicago at 18 and founded a lumber business. Besides the station property, he donated land for a local school, library and cemetery.

He began building spraying equipment for the tender fruit industry in 1914, a venture that led to the establishment of M.K. Rittenhouse. Based in St. Catharines, the company supplies tools and equipment for landscapers, farmers, property owners, golf courses and greenhouses. Rittenhouse died in 1915.

In 1905, there were calls for a Niagara fruit experiment station, similar to 15 stations already serving fruit-growing areas in Ontario beginning in the late 1800s. An early champion of what would become the Vineland station was H.L. Hutt, an OAC horticulturist and inspector of fruit experiment stations.

He served on the new station's first board of directors, with James Mills, then president of OAC.

Other OAC principals involved in the station were physics professor W.H. Day, who supervised drainage plans. A member was George Creelman, an OAC horticulturist who eventually succeeded Mills as president.

For early staff and students, the station was a workplace but also a home. Several generations of the Rittenhouse family lived in a house adjacent to the Vineland campus. Around mid-1950s was Robert Cline, an OAC horticulturist who worked on soil testing studies at Vineland — who returned after completing graduate studies at State University. He and his wife, Barbara, lived at the station 18 months before finding a home off the



Research station manager Ray Kaczmarzki claims deep roots at Vineland.

in: Vineland Turns 100



Experiment Station posed for this photo in 1915.

"To run continuously and for growers to make decent money, they want varieties that fit in different time slots," he says. "The challenge for the breeding program here is to find varieties to stretch the window. That's our main job."

That means he spends a lot of time over the highway on Victoria Farm, growing hybrid peaches that are also cold-tolerant and disease-resistant.

"I'd like to see my peaches grown in Quebec or on the northern side of Lake Ontario. If I do that, I will be more than satisfied that I've done my job."

Vineland runs the only peach-breeding program in Canada. This year, the station will release two peach cultivars and three plums.

"There's no other research centre that has come up with so many varieties of perennial fruits in 100 years," says Subramanian. "Those varieties have made a significant contribution to growers."

He says he's recently received calls from European growers looking for new varieties. Another hungry market is Florida, where supermarkets sell Ontario peaches to Ontario and Quebec snowbirds. "They like to see something homegrown," says Subramanian,

who arrived from the University of Florida four years ago.

In all, the Vineland station has developed and released 154 varieties of fruits, vegetables and ornamental plants. Those include more than 77 varieties of peaches, apricots, cherries and plums for the fresh and processing markets. Many are so-called "V" varieties, including peaches (for example, Venture, Vivid, Vedette), plums (Vibrant, Violette), cherries (Vandalay, Viscount) and grapes (Vintinto, Vivant).

"Ninety per cent of processing peaches come from one 'V' variety alone," says station manager Kaczmarek, noting that Vineland-derived varieties are used in Del Monte fruit cups.

Besides fruit varieties, the station has released cultivars of vegetables, notably sweet corn, cucumber, sweet pepper and tomato (both greenhouse and market and processing varieties). Among its ornamentals are varieties of rhododendron, azaleas, lily and holly.

Breeding new varieties for growers is part of the job at Vineland. The other part is cultural management, or finding better ways to grow the tree or plant on the farm or orchard. That job now falls to Prof. John Cline, Plant Agriculture, who spends 40 per cent of his time at Vineland and the rest at U of G's Simcoe research station.

(Along with the muck crops research station in the Holland Marsh, the Vineland and Simcoe sites were grouped in the 1960s under the Horticultural Research Institute of Ontario. All three stations were transferred to U of G's



Prof. Jay Subramanian specializes in fruit breeding.



Dubbed the "Mushroom Man," Prof. Danny Rinker, right, found a way to fight a major fungal disease of mushrooms. At left is technician Glen Alm.

Department of Plant Agriculture in 1998. Vineland's greenhouse, storage and outdoor ornamentals research programs and staff subsequently moved to the U of G campus, leaving research programs in viticulture, tree fruit breeding and management, and mushroom production in the peninsula.)

Cline studies more efficient rootstocks, the rooted part of the tree on which peach and cherry varieties are grafted. Controlling the size of those rootstocks affects everything from the speed and amount of fruit growth to fruit size and disease resistance. He's particularly interested in hardy dwarf rootstocks that give growers small but prolific trees that may be densely planted in the orchard with less pruning. (Earlier researchers at Vineland developed the central leader training system for tree fruit, adopted throughout the peninsula for higher-density growing.)

He also studies how to prevent rain-induced cracking of sweet cherries, a major problem near harvest time that may destroy up to half of a grower's crop. Cline has looked at various systems that might protect trees, ranging from modified greenhouses to netting structures.

A third research interest is the use of natural plant substances and chemicals to regulate the number of peaches growing on individual trees. His goal is to grow just enough fruit on each tree to ensure peaches reach optimum size for growers.

"Left unchecked, a tree will produce lots of flowers and fruit that are too small," says Cline, who works with research associate Elina Coneva and Ali Taheri, a U of G graduate student co-supervised with Subramanian.

In another intriguing case of deep roots, Cline now occupies the very office and lab where his father spent 37 years as a Vineland researcher. Robert Cline, a 1956 graduate of the Ontario Agricultural College, developed a leaf analysis service to better diagnose trees' nutrient requirements and the effect of cultural practices on fruit quality, longevity and disease resistance. He also studied trickle irrigation, soil nutrition, cover crops and seeding practices, work that overlaps somewhat with his son's current research at the station.

"For many of these field experiments, we need a research station," says John Cline, whose own family now lives on the 1820s farm in Grimsby where he grew up. (After retiring in

1991, Robert and his wife, Barbara — a 1956 graduate of Macdonald Institute — established a commercial orchard near Owen Sound.) John remembers visiting the station as a youngster and seeing his father head off on road trips around Ontario to meet with growers. Father and son also trod the same ground at Guelph during Robert's periodic research and administrative visits while John was a student.

Although Vineland station researchers



Grapes and vines occupy Prof. Helen Fisher.

conduct field trials routinely with Niagara-area growers, John Cline says much of the initial trial and error has to happen at the station. At the same time, proximity to the producers is key.

"We're in the heart of the tender fruit industry, so there's a great exchange of ideas and information between the stakeholders and the University."

That role — generating and sharing ideas and knowledge to support growers locally and further afield — is still the station's purpose a century after it was established. Says Kaczmarek: "If it weren't for the Vineland research station, we wouldn't have a tender fruit industry today."

mpus Dates Back to 1906

on's first board of control along with of OAC.

involved in establishing the station W.H. Day, who surveyed the age plans. An early advisory board celman, an OAC graduate who as president of the college.

ents, the station was not only a Several generations grew up on and campus. Among the occupants in the line, an OAC graduate — he had ies at Vineland as a summer student completing graduate work at Michigan s wife, Barbara, lived there for about home off the station.

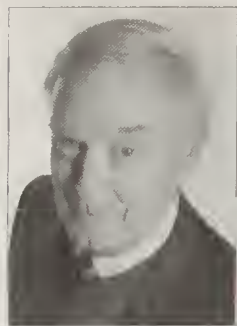
The Vineland station has long been a home away from campus for graduate students. One early example was botany student John MacLachlan, who wrote a 1931 paper on cherry leaf spot before going on to complete a PhD at Harvard. He helped bring together the three founding colleges — OAC, the Ontario Veterinary College and Macdonald Institute — to form U of G in 1964 and served as the University's first president.

As part of its centennial celebration, the station is now raising funds for a graduate scholarship for students completing part of their research at Vineland.

This year's commemorative activities will include a homecoming and community celebration in August, a seminar series and grower tours, and a wrap-up dinner in January 2007. For details, visit www.uoguelph.ca/vcc2006/index.html.

Three to Be Named University Professor Emeritus

Continued from page 1



Terry Copp



Sir John Krebs



P.K. Nair



Prof. Michael Nightingale



Senator Donald Oliver

assistant to the dean of CBS from 1979 to 2001 before becoming the first associate dean of the B.Sc. program. He was also co-creator of a number of academic support programs for varsity athletes. In 2002, the first annual Ramprashad Scholarship was awarded to recognize the student who best demonstrates the combination of academic excellence and participation in intercollegiate athletics.

In addition, Langford will be named University professor emeritus. A former chair of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and past deputy director of the Fields Institute, he is renowned for his work in applied dynamical systems. He has been a member of the College of Reviewers for the Canada Research Chairs program and is president-elect of the Canadian Applied and Industrial Mathematics Society.

Two ceremonies are planned for June 13, beginning with convocation for the College of Arts at 10 a.m. Copp will receive an honorary doctor of letters degree and address graduands. He is the founding editor of *Canadian Military History* and au-



Prof. Fred Ramprashad



Prof. Bill Langford



Prof. Jamie Snell



Prof. Patrick Woo

thor of more than a dozen books, including *Anatomy of Poverty*, *Working People*, *Battle Exhaustion: Soldiers and Psychiatrists in the Canadian Army and Field of Fire: The Canadians in Normandy*. He is also a two-time winner of the Charles P. Stacey Book Award for best Canadian book on military history.

Snell will also be honoured at this ceremony. A Guelph faculty member from 1968 to 2004 and former chair of the Department of History, he was involved in a wide range of

administrative and governance activities. He has written a number of books, including *In the Shadow of the Law: Divorce in Canada, 1900-1939* and *Citizen's Wage: The State and the Elderly in Canada, 1900-1951*.

A ceremony for the Ontario Veterinary College begins at 2:30 p.m. Lynette Corbeil, a 1962 OVC graduate who is a professor of pathology at the University of California-San Diego School of Medicine and the Burnham Institute, will address the graduating class.

Three ceremonies are planned for the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences. June 14 at 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. and June 15 at 10 a.m.

Sochua will address the graduands and receive an honorary doctorate of laws at the morning ceremony June 14. For more than 25 years, she has been a human rights advocate speaking out against human trafficking, domestic violence and worker exploitation in Cambodia. She has helped refugees in Thai border camps, was elected to Cambodia's national assembly and is the former minister of women's and veterans' affairs. In 2005, she was recognized for her efforts with a humanitarian award from the Vital Voices Foundation, presented by Hillary Rodham Clinton.

At the afternoon ceremony, Oliver will give the address and receive an honorary doctorate of laws. Appointed to the Canadian Senate in 1990, he has had a distinguished legal career as a civil litigator and legal educator and has been active in political affairs with the Progressive Conservative party for more than 30 years. He is a member of the Senate standing committees on banking, trade and commerce and on agriculture and forestry. Oliver also served as chair of the Senate standing committee on transport and communications and co-chair of the special joint committee on a code of conduct.

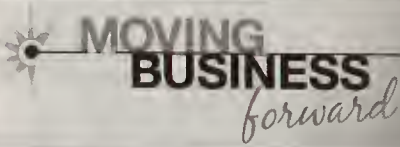
On June 15, Nightingale will address B.Comm. graduates at 10 a.m. He joined U of G in 1987 as director of the then School of Hotel and Food Administration and became found-

ing dean of the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences in 1999. He played a significant role in creating the 'University' of Guelph-Humber and was appointed its first vice-provost. He retired in 2005.

Convocation on the main campus concludes June 15 with a 2:30 p.m. ceremony for the Ontario Agricultural College. Nair will receive an honorary doctor of science degree and address the graduating class. A founder-scientist of the World Agroforestry Centre in Kenya, he has made unparalleled contributions to the development of agroforestry systems over the past three decades. He is director of the University of Florida's Center for Subtropical Agroforestry and editor-in-chief of *Agroforestry Systems*. Nair was recently selected to receive the Humboldt Prize, Germany's highest research award for senior scientists in the United States.

At the University of Guelph-Humber's convocation June 19, Nightingale will be awarded an honorary doctorate of laws and address the graduands. Guelph-Humber's first graduates are from the media studies and business programs. Media studies students will receive a bachelor of applied arts degree from Guelph and a diploma in either journalism or public relations from Humber. Business students will receive a bachelor of business administration from Guelph and a diploma in business administration from Humber.

Editor's note: A photo of honorary degree recipient Mu Sochua was unavailable at press time.



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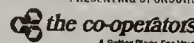
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London Surgeon Traces Guelph's Research Role in Coagulation

Roots of anti-clotting agents used in medicine found in veterinary, agricultural colleges

BY ANDREW VOWLES

MODERN DOCTORS and their patients whose lives depend on therapies used routinely in cardiovascular and transplant surgery owe a debt to a handful of coagulation pioneers whose discoveries during the 1920s took place not at medical schools but at the forerunners of the University of Guelph.

That's the thesis of a journal review article written by a Canadian transplant surgeon about what he calls a little-known connection between modern clinical medicine and early research in agricultural and veterinary sciences done in Guelph.

"The science of agriculture and the science of humans — they're all related," says Dr. Vivian McAlister, a surgeon at University Hospital in London and a surgery professor at the University of Western Ontario.

His paper chase, including an examination of documents held in the McLaughlin Library archives, unearthed work done by several researchers — including two major names in the history of the Ontario Agricultural College and the Ontario Veterinary College — decades before U of G itself was established.

McAlister's paper, now before the *Canadian Medical Association Journal* for review, details how early OAC and OVC studies played a role in the development of anti-clotting agents, specifically vitamin K, heparin and warfarin.

More than that, he found that early Guelph researchers pioneered systematic agricultural studies, including the use of controlled trials, a concept that wouldn't catch on in human medicine until later. "They were ahead of medicine," he says.

In his paper, called "Control of Coagulation: A Gift of Canadian Agriculture," McAlister explains that vitamin K was named in 1935 by a Danish researcher who would later share a Nobel Prize. But that work stemmed from research by a trio of OAC graduate students.

William McFarlane had studied dairy science in his native United Kingdom; in Canada, he completed a PhD on poultry in 1932 under the supervision of Prof. William Graham. (McFarlane subsequently left for Edmonton but returned to Guelph as a chemistry professor in Macdonald College.)

Along with students William Graham Jr. and Frederick Richardson, McFarlane published a paper in 1930 about experiments on fat-soluble components of chick feed. Working with chicks on a fat-free diet, they noticed persistent bleeding from wounds where the birds' identification tags had been applied. Having ruled out known vitamins and other dietary components, they were left with the possibility that an unknown component prevented blood clotting.

Interested mostly in comparing various dietary supplements and

chick growth, the trio went no further. But in a 1943 Nobel Prize lecture given by Copenhagen researcher Henrik Dam, they were credited with the initial observation that led to the discovery of vitamin K.

Other researchers mistakenly believed that vitamin C was the missing ingredient. Dam found an anti-hemorrhagic factor in other foods and named it vitamin K for "koagulation" in Scandinavian and German spellings.

American researcher Edward Doisy extracted, characterized and synthesized vitamin K from alfalfa. McAlister's paper notes that vitamin K soon became available for treating patients who were bleeding or needed surgery. Dam and Doisy shared the 1943 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

But that was only part of the Guelph connection to the coagulation story — and not even the first part. McAlister says neither Dam nor other vitamin researchers knew that vitamin K antagonists had been studied almost a decade earlier, this time at OVC.

Dam had shown how the body uses vitamin K to make prothrombin, a precursor in the chain of biochemical events that leads to fibrin, a vital clotting protein. In his Nobel address, he also mentioned that this chain of events could be disrupted by dicoumarol. This substance interferes with vitamin K metabolism, slowing the production of prothrombin.

The precursor to dicoumarol forms in sweet clover that has been spoilt by mould. But nobody knew that back when Francis Schofield, a 1910 OVC graduate and pathologist at the veterinary college, began looking at a bleeding disorder that caused cattle to hemorrhage to death. In 1922, he traced the problem to mouldy sweet clover. He suggested that an anti-thrombin substance in spoilt silage led to uncontrolled bleeding.

Two decades would pass before scientists figured out how the process worked. It was researchers at the University of Wisconsin who found that mould oxidized coumarin in clover. Yoked to formaldehyde, coumarin formed dicoumarol, a vitamin K antagonist.

Those scientists had uncovered a substance that would become a powerful anticoagulant. A derivative became warfarin, named for the acronym of the Wisconsin Alumni Research Fund. Used originally as a rodent pesticide, warfarin — along with dicoumarol — found use in human medicine, not least after then U.S. president Dwight Eisenhower was treated with it after a heart attack.

McAlister's paper also details how Toronto scientists Charles Best, Gordon Murray and Louis Jaques found a cheap, abundant source of purified heparin that could be used

in vascular surgery. McAlister says many liver transplant recipients now receive vitamin K, warfarin or heparin during their care.

He first uncovered the Guelph connections more than five years ago, when he was preparing a talk on coagulation and hemorrhage control, including a new drug made in Denmark. He already knew about Dam's work there on vitamin K, but he was searching for more information to strengthen the link to Copenhagen.

"What I was astonished to see was that Dam credited scientists in Guelph with the preliminary work that allowed him to do his Nobel Prize-winning work."

Curious, he followed up the reference at the McLaughlin Library archives (his paper credits help from archivist Darlene Wiltzie). He sent his review paper to *CMAJ* about a year ago.

Speaking about the early Guelph research, he says: "The most important message is that these are not isolated matters of luck. This was a planned approach arising out of a 19-century decision to have an agricultural and a veterinary college in Guelph supported by the Government of Ontario. That link was, I think, essential to its success. It gave scientists credibility in the community."

That point was underlined when his preliminary research on McFarlane led him to the elder William Graham, for whom the former poultry building on campus is named. Although he had nothing to do with studies of bleeding chicks on fat-free diets, Graham Sr. fostered a

climate of inquiry that enabled other researchers, including his son, to thrive, says McAlister.

For McAlister, the U of G connection to the story of coagulation is bittersweet. McFarlane and his collaborators knew that a fat-soluble component of the diet was responsible for clotting failure, but they left that research avenue untrodden.

"If they had pursued it, they would have figured it out. They would have got the Nobel Prize."

Similarly for Schofield, McAlister says, although for different reasons. Pointing to the range of research papers the OVC scientist wrote on infectious diseases in farm animals, McAlister suggests Schofield might have earned a Nobel, too, if he'd stuck to hemorrhagic factors.

Similar sentiments were expressed in a short biography published last year by Douglas Maplesden. He wrote that Schofield's "early discovery of an anticoagulant active via the oral route was one of the most important discoveries of the veterinary profession in the first half of the 20th century. Oral anticoagulants could thereby be developed to poison rodent pests and as human drugs to prevent thrombosis."

More lyrically, David Archibald, a U of G grad and composer/playwright, retold Schofield's story in a musical portrait called *Schofield: The Sleepless Tiger*. One song, called *The Ballad of Mouldy Sweet Clover*, ends with the discovery of warfarin in Wisconsin as follows: "... when my bones are still and spent/They'll say there lies the man who sent/A million bleedin' rodents to their grave."

STEELWORKERS CONGRATULATE UGFA ON CERTIFICATION

On behalf of the administrative and technical support staff of Steelworkers Local 4120, I extend heartfelt congratulations to the U of G Faculty Association on its successful certification vote. I also wish to express our support in their upcoming first contract negotiations.

Staff and members of Local 4120 share the aspirations and dreams of faculty and administration that the University of Guelph remain a beacon of excellence in post-secondary education.

Faculty and staff working in harmony and in the true meaning of collegiality will serve to ensure the quality of program delivery that is in the best interests of the students who attend our university.

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Students to Hit the Bruce Trail to Raise Funds and Awareness

Duo will spend a month walking entire 850-kilometre length of trail to support maintenance, conservation

BY REBECCA KENDALL

AHIKE ON THE BRUCE TRAIL is more than just a way to spend an afternoon for third-year U of G zoology student Ayden Sherritt. This summer, it'll consume an estimated 30 consecutive afternoons — along with mornings and evenings — as he and Rob Blom, a third-year mathematics student at the University of Waterloo, set out on an 850-kilometre hike that will take them the entire length of the Bruce Trail in an effort to raise funds for and awareness of the trail.

The Bruce Trail is Canada's longest and oldest marked hiking trail and draws an estimated 400,000 visitors each year. It runs along the Niagara Escarpment, which was proclaimed a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve by the United Nations in 1990 and is home to a wide variety of plants and animals. Currently more than half of the trail is on private land and unprotected from possible future development.

Sherritt and Blom are scheduled to depart from Tobemorny June 19 and will hike about 30 kilometres a day until they get to the trail's end at Queenston.

"The distance we'll travel on any given day will depend largely on where we find water and how dark it will get before we reach the next water spot," says Blom, director of Footsteps to Conservation, a four-member student-run group that's working to educate students about the Bruce Trail, the Niagara Escarpment, Ontario's Golden Horseshoe Greenbelt and UNESCO.

Sherritt, who's a member of the group, has been friends with Blom since high school. He grew up in Caistor Centre, surrounded by nature and close to the trail.

"The Bruce Trail is a meaningful place for me, and it's important to preserve the space for future generations to enjoy," says Sherritt, noting that more than 100 endangered or threatened species live there.

All money raised will go to the Bruce Trail Association (BTA) for trail maintenance and conservation efforts, he says. "The trail has an abundance of plants and animals, and maintaining the trail will benefit people who normally wouldn't have access to these things."

He notes that the trail also benefits its nearby communities because of the tourist dollars it generates.

The duo's efforts are supported by the BTA, a non-profit organization that's working to preserve the trail and the surrounding landscape.

"They will be following the small ranks of people who have walked the trail end to end," says Marilyn Job, director of development for the BTA.

Through donations, the organization has been able to buy and protect trail land from destruction in perpetuity, she says. The goal is to secure 95 per cent of the path.

"By purchasing these lands and then stewarding them for long-term protection, the BTA will educate Canadian citizens about one of Canada's geological wonders. It's not only a footpath — it's also a conservation corridor. We're not only providing a place to hike but also providing sanctuary for birds and saving habitat for animals and all kinds of trees and other natural ecosystems. We think Ayden and Rob are doing a wonderful thing, and we thank them for their efforts."

For more information or to make a donation in support of the students' hike, visit the website www.footstepstoconservation.org.

ROMESH HETTIARACHCHI

Fourth-year student in political science

Romesh Hettiarachchi's interest in politics and social justice extends beyond the classroom. He enjoys exploring current events and issues through newspapers and journals, and publicly expresses his views by being a volunteer contributor to the *Ontario*.

Hettiarachchi has also been active on campus as a student senator and member of the University Catholic Community.



Romesh Hettiarachchi

"Being involved adds to the university experience," he says. "Once you sink your teeth in, there's lots to learn, and it truly enriches the time spent here. I love meeting new people and doing things that encourage learning and the exchange of ideas."

He also enjoys playing and watching soccer. Twice a week, he gets together with friends to play soccer at different fields around town and says his favourite professional team is Newcastle United. Beginning June 9, Hettiarachchi will be in front of the television watching the 2006 FIFA World Cup.

This summer, he plans to go camping with friends in Elora and Algonquin Park. "I love the outdoors," he says. "I've never been to Algonquin, so I'm really looking forward to it. There are between 10 and 15 of us going."

DOUG HORNE

Librarian and head of the U of G Library's academic liaison teams, University staff member since 1992

Doug Horne hits the airwaves each week on CKMS FM 100.3, a radio station based at the University of Waterloo. For the past 22 years, he has hosted a free-form show where he draws on his eclectic tastes in music to entertain his audience. The show airs Friday from 8 to 11 p.m. "It's three hours of nothing but me," he says.



Doug Horne

Although he often comes into a show with an idea of

what he'd like to play, he says he rarely sticks to the plan. Instead, he's driven by whatever mood he's in, and the sounds that are heard are a reflection of that.

"I make a point of mixing styles and sound. It's part of the challenge and enjoyment."

He also hosts an audio-arts show on CKMS Saturdays from 10 to 11 p.m., mixing a "collage of sound" to create a mood or message. His show is often related to a political theme, he says.

"Radio gives me an opportunity to completely remove myself from everything else around me. You should never go on air with thoughts of pleasing your audience. You just play what sounds good to you, and hopefully listeners will agree."

CAROL ARMSTRONG

Faculty member in the Department of Biomedical Sciences since 2005

Family is important to Prof. Carol Armstrong, and most of her time away from the University is spent with her husband, John, also a faculty member in the Department of Biomedical Sciences, and their children: Jake, 8; Thomas, 5; and Luke, 2. Her favourite thing to do is to spend time with her sons exploring the forest near their home, hiking or putting in the garden.



Carol Armstrong

She's been putting time into clearing the overgrown plants and weeds out of the neglected garden that came with the house they bought last year.

"The garden I'm starting will be really low-maintenance. Although I love doing it and working outdoors, I'm really bad at it."

Gardening may not be Armstrong's forte, but baking is. "I really love to bake cookies and brownies and stuff that's bad for you," she says, noting that her specialties are rum cake and flourless chocolate cake. "Chocolate is a big part of my baking. In fact, I start each day by eating a big piece of dark chocolate with my morning coffee."

She also enjoys reading and is currently making her way through *Harry Potter* and *The Order of the Phoenix*, *Just Because It's Not Wrong Doesn't Make It Right* by Barbara Coloroso and Allison Pearson's *I Don't Know How She Does It* — "a hilarious book about a working mom balancing birthday parties and nannies and life."

A Guide to Rural Ontario

New book a primer for city mice visiting or travelling through farm country

BY ANDREW VOWLES

WHAT'S A BANK BARN? What's growing in that farm field? How do you tell a John Deere tractor from a Case?

Prof. Wayne Caldwell, School of Environmental Design and Rural Development, says urbanites will learn the answers to these and numerous other questions about country life in a new guidebook he's publishing this summer.

The Urbanite's Guide to the Countryside is written as a primer for city mice visiting or travelling through farm country and rural communities in southern Ontario.

Co-authors are Cathie Brown, former executive director of the Ontario Rural Council; U of G landscape architecture graduate Gillian Auld; and Sarah Thomson, a journalist in Huron County.

The 140-page softcover book will be published by Volumes Publishing in Kitchener.

The book contains a short history of rural Ontario and discusses rural issues, landscapes, farmhouses and rural communities. Most of the vol-

ume consists of short, breezy sections on the most common agricultural crops and farm animals found in this area, including information, trivia and plenty of colour photographs.

Caldwell envisions readers spotting something in the landscape, then flipping to the pertinent entry to identify and learn about it, much as a birder might use a field guide.

Besides teaching readers about the countryside, he hopes to cultivate an appreciation for rural Ontario and perhaps help bridge the urban-rural divide.

Out of a roomful of undergraduate planning students who attended a lecture he gave recently at the University of Waterloo, only a handful turned out to have a rural or farming background.

"A lot of decisions are being made by people in rural communities who don't have an appreciation for the challenges," says Caldwell, a planner and lifelong farmer in Huron County.

Lack of understanding often leads to conflict between farmers

and their non-farming neighbours, a major research topic for this U of G professor. Increased specialization means that even farming neighbours may have less in common than they did when Caldwell was growing up on a then-typical mixed farm.

He plans to promote the book through agencies such as the Ontario Federation of Agriculture and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. He also hopes to stock it in outlets from tourism bureaus to gas stations that motorists will encounter during their travels.

"There's a recognition that they don't understand the countryside they're driving through," he says.

Along with Prof. Stew Hilts, chair of the Department of Land Resource Science, and PhD student Bronwynne Wilton, Caldwell is also editing a book based on a recent U of G conference on farmland preservation. And he's updating the first Canadian planning textbook, written in 1917 by Thomas Adams, considered the godfather of planning in Canada.



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Historian Traces Threads of Middle East Culture

Prof explores the influence that America's fascination with the east has had in history

BY REBECCA KENDALL

AMERICA HAS LONG had a fascination with the Middle East, says Prof. Susan Nance, History. Visions of magic carpet rides, Ali Baba and the sands of Arabia have brought a sense of exotic possibility and mystical wonder to many, she says, and in some cases have inspired people to abandon their American identities for Arab ones. The reasons for this cultural reassignment are of particular interest to Nance, who joined U of G in 2004.

Her first study in this area looked at Chicago's Moorish Science Temple, a congregation of some 200 African-Americans who began to convert to Islam in the 1920s, arguing that they were connected to Morocco and Islamic culture through pre-slavery ancestry. Her work on the topic has been published in *American Quarterly* and *Religion and American Culture*.

"I found that their conversion was more of a homegrown version of spirituality that was grounded in all sorts of mystical cultural thought that had deep roots in African-American culture," she says. "They started calling themselves Muslim or Islamic and dressing in ways they perceived to be Islamic. They also adopted new names to represent that change."

But the change couldn't truly be credited to Islamic culture, says Nance, who holds BA and MA degrees from Simon Fraser University and a PhD from the University of California at Berkeley.

"It was an alternative spirituality that had existed for a long time and was being publicly expressed in urban settings in this new way. It was an interesting time because people were deciding who they were and



Prof. Karen Nance's research interests range from cultural reassignment to the history of circus animals. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

who they wanted to be."

They were the first African-Americans since the days of slavery to come out and say they were Muslim, that this was part of their identity and that this was how they were going to live out their days in America as a minority, says Nance.

"Many of the slaves who were brought to the United States from Africa were Muslims, and a number had publicly lived so, so this was a revitalization movement."

Their early membership evolved into the Nation of Islam, a group that became famous because of Malcolm X.

"The connection to the Muslim world over the last century has permeated black culture in the United States," says Nance, noting that Arabic names such as Malik, Jamal, Rashida and Khadija are popular with many African-American parents, regardless of religious affiliation.

Similarly, Arabic names were popular among American-born entertainers who took on exotic personas in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Vaudeville performers, magicians, belly dancers and fortune tellers were among the entertainers who fed off the common romanticized American perception of the Arab world as mystical and exotic, she says.

It wasn't unusual for U.S. performers to assume the role of the Middle Eastern visitor, especially because the average American at this time had limited, if any, experience with people of colour from other countries, says Nance, who delivered a paper in Lebanon titled "Internationalism and Exotic Personae Among Vaudeville Magicians and Fortune Tellers in Early 20th-Century America" in December. In these cases, entertainers would assume an eastern name and dress in eastern-style clothing. Without questioning their authenticity, people would pay to see them and return time and time again, she says.

The Shriners, an organization formerly known as the Mystic Shrine of North America, is also based on Arabic influences, says Nance, noting that they're known for their colourful ceremonies and parade costumes and the Arabic names given to many of their orders.

Although the Shriners have always been a satirical organization of secret orders, coloured fezzes and tiny motorized cars, they have at times been viewed as mocking Arabic culture, an assessment Nance calls inaccurate and short-sighted.

"The Shriners are Masons, and they're actually mocking those who are strict socialist conformists."

Over the past century, the organization has also become well-known

for its circuses, which were once used to generate funds for their temples and activities (now most of the proceeds go to hospitals). America's first Shrine Circus was held in 1906 at the Moslem Shrine Temple in Detroit, complete with acrobats, magicians and animals from far-off places. Three thousand people turned out for the event.

Exploration of the circus as a basis to study human-animal communication and co-operation has led Nance in a new direction as she shifts from cross-cultural to cross-species history.

There's a growing interest in animal history, she says, and many of the sources are related to circuses. The actions of animals have caused shows to end abruptly and, in some cases, have resulted in the near loss of entire operations.

"There are constant references to animals ruining the operation of circuses," says Nance, who's also a member of U of G's Animal-Care Committee. "An elephant could bankrupt a business. Communication can be difficult between people, and cross-species is even harder. When an elephant decides to do something, including attack a trainer, no one can stop it."

Her goal is to learn how people have tried to communicate with circus elephants when money and people's lives are at stake, and how elephants have historically helped people make money.

"I've always been a believer that animals have power and that they make decisions that affect human lives, yet animals are completely absent from history. They've done so much for us, and they're just not there. We'll never know how the elephants felt about their job or their intentions, but I can learn what they did and the effect of that."

Dutcher Films: Coming to a Lab Near You?

Physicist's pioneering studies attract international attention

BY ANDREW VOWLES

DUTCHER FILMS? No, U of G physics professor John Dutcher hasn't branched into movie production. But he's recently gained an unlooked-for measure of fame — at least among readers of an American scientific journal — for his pioneering studies of three-layer polymer films that may ultimately help in creating ultra-small optical components or growing body tissues.

This spring, he was surprised to learn that two British chemists had written a paper about what they called Dutcher films.

The paper, called "Stress-Guided Self-Assembly in Dutcher Films," was published in the April issue of *Physical Review E*, a journal of the American Physical Society.

Dutcher had met one of the authors earlier, but he hadn't realized the British scientists were conduct-

ing computer simulations of his free-standing polymers, much less preparing to publish a paper.

"A former grad student e-mailed it to me and said, 'You're famous.' I couldn't believe it. It's kind of flattering."

That paper implicitly recognizes Dutcher's pioneering studies of free-standing films first made in Guelph more than six years ago by his Polymer Surface and Interface Group. That group is interested in the stability of liquid films. Some films like adhesives and lubricants are desirable, he says, but others are not. Your car tire treads help break up a slick film that may otherwise make driving perilous. Dishwasher detergent breaks up water films on dishes to avoid unsightly drying rings.

Dutcher films are a three-layer "sandwich." A liquid polymer filling made of anything from coffee cup polystyrene to rubber is capped on

either side with a more solid layer. He and his graduate students made the films as a simple model for experimenting with heat tolerance and the effects of varying forces that act on nanoscale film thicknesses.

There's nothing simple about making the films. It involves high-speed spinning of polymers and selective use of solvents and water to make a film suspended like a soap bubble inside a stainless-steel washer no bigger than a fingernail. Dutcher uses a pair of tweezers to manipulate the film under a microscope to observe its unusual properties.

Heating sparks a nanoscale battle within the film. Short-range van der Waals forces pull molecules together, trying to thin the film. But the stiffer outer layers resist bending.

What was intriguing to Dutcher was what happened when his graduate student Kari Dalnoki-Veress cranked the heat higher ("for fun,"

he grins). Those conflicting forces resolved themselves into distinct patterns of waves with characteristic periods. Under the microscope, the monochromatic film now displayed alternating bands of colours in patterns varying with the particular polymer types used in the film.

The key thing, says Dutcher, was the periodicity of the waves. (The visible patterns result from the way light interacts with the waves at this extremely small scale.) Being able to "tune" the film meant the researchers could test what happened when they changed variables from the stiffness of its capping layers to the composition of its polymers.

He, Dalnoki-Veress and departmental colleague Prof. Bernie Nickel first published a paper about their experiments — without calling them Dutcher films — in *Physical Review Letters* in 1999.

Dutcher has yet to develop any application based on his observa-

tions, but the British researchers suggest his films might help in making nano-sized computer chips based on little-understood quantum effects or optical components used to split light.

Another possible application in making substrates for tissue growth comes closer to Dutcher's related research interests. As a theme leader within the Advanced Foods and Materials Network (AFMNet), a federal Network of Centres of Excellence based at Guelph, he studies biofilms — ultra-thin coatings produced by bacteria on surfaces.

Studies in his lab — funded by AFMNet and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council — have shown that seemingly look-alike bacteria in a colony stick selectively to different substrates. Biofilms may cause "bio-fouling" of anything from ships' hulls to municipal water-intake pipes to medical implants to body parts.

Gryphon Camps Gear Up

Some 1,600 children and teens will participate in range of summer activities

BY ANDREW VOWLES

VARSITY SWIM COACH Jeff Slater was leading a Gryphons practice one day when two youngsters walked on deck for their regular swim lesson. Beaming at Slater, they told him they'd signed up for summer camp again this year. He smiles as he says, "For me that's pretty neat, that these kids remember who you are and had a great time."

Having seen off all but a few of his varsity swimmers for the summer, Slater has traded his coach's cap for his alternate title: director of Gryphon activity camps. That means he's completing preparations for children and teens expected to visit campus through July and August for various activity and leadership camps offered by the Department of Athletics.

Slater is responsible for planning the activity camp roster, co-ordinating use of facilities on campus, hiring camp staff and managing the budget for these non-resident day camps. He will also run two new sport camps this summer in water polo and triathlon.

The sport-specific camp program will be managed by newly hired Gryphon football coach Jason Kana; varsity coaches will run sessions in basketball, field hockey, football, hockey, soccer, track and field and volleyball. The entire slate of Gryphon summer and March break camps is supervised by Alan Fairweather, who also manages aquatics and recreational programs on campus.

In all, about 1,600 children and teens will spend one or more weeks on campus for this year's activity and sport camps — about as many as the program and campus facilities can handle.

For Slater, who has no kids of his own and never attended day camps while growing up in Winnipeg and Ottawa, the chance to connect with youngsters and with the nearly two dozen U of G and high school students who serve as the activity camp counsellors is "rewarding."

"I come in with an open mind," he says, then adds: "I don't know any camp songs."

That's OK. Slater says his staff of 22 camp counsellors come armed with plenty of ideas and activities to keep their young charges going during their week-long sessions.

Rain days are a challenge, he concedes. What to do with some 100 kids, ranging in age from four to 15, in the west gym of the Athletics Centre? Ticking off the options — movies, rock climbing, a dodge-ball tournament, relay races — Slater says: "We created something out of nothing."

This summer's roster includes junior activity camps (ages four to eight), senior multi-sport camps (nine to 14), leadership and volunteer programs for 13- to

15-year-olds and a rock-climbing camp (nine to 14). Slater also oversees girls-only and boys-only camps — Girls Inc. and Boys' Week Out — designed to address challenges and opportunities for kids aged nine to 13.

"General research shows that kids of these ages can learn different things in a single-sex environment and learn differently," he says.

In response to inquiries from parents of French-immersion students, two of this year's activity camp sessions will operate in French, run by a bilingual counsellor. By early May, half of those spots were already filled.

Individual sessions accommodate up to 20 youngsters. Not surprisingly, many are children and grandchildren of U of G staff and faculty, and many attend more than one camp session each summer.

Programs and counsellors can accommodate children with special needs. There's also some discretionary funding to take at-risk children or youngsters from disadvantaged families.

Slater, who began directing the summer activity camps last year, says kids enjoy the campus and parents appreciate how well organized the program is. Not that everything runs flawlessly, he says, recalling the camper who went AWOL for an hour one day last year after a spat with another youngster. It turned out he'd taken too literally his parents' advice to walk away from conflicts.

For more information about the Gryphon activity camps, visit the website http://www.gryphons.ca/Fitness_and_Recreation/News/403 or pick up a brochure at the Athletics Centre.



Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken on campus, you will have your name entered in a draw to be held in June for a \$50 gift certificate donated by the U of G Bookstore. Anyone who submits the right answer by June 2 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca or call Ext. 56039. The following people correctly reported that the May 17 photo was of a staircase in the Food Science Building: Francie Niekamp and John Van Manen.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL



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Tanzer 22 Swing Keel sailboat with aluminum trailer, almost new sails and furler, new bimini and dodger, eight-hp. Honda long shaft, 822-3803 or lmhansen@engcorp.com.

Green leather sofa and loveseat set with co-ordinating swag-style drapery treatments to fit bay window (about nine feet) and flat window (about five feet), excellent condition; loft-style single bed and desk set from Ikea; men's 26-inch and boy's 24-inch bicycles, 837-3809.

Purebred border collie pups, 824-0796.

Gas stove, excellent condition; twin bed with mattress and dresser, light-coloured hardwood maple; twin bed with mattress, dark wood, ysavoret@uoguelph.ca.

FOR RENT

Three-bedroom house across from Sunny Acres Park, 1,750 square feet, two fireplaces, renovated bath and kitchen, fenced yard, sunroom, non-smokers, \$1,400 a month plus

utilities; one-bedroom basement apartment in house, private entrance, patio area, parking, wired for home office, \$600 a month plus utilities; entire house available for \$1,800 plus utilities, slideshow and photos available, 767-2381.

Four-bedroom house, four bathrooms, laundry, parking for one car, on bus route, care of garden needed, no smoking, no pets, \$1,100 a month plus utilities, will also rent individual bedrooms, ranging from \$300 to \$500, 766-7351.

Three-bedroom house, recently renovated with new carpets and flooring, close to campus, mall, school and bus stop, suitable for sabbatical faculty or three students, parking, laundry, available June 1, \$1,200 a month plus utilities, 822-6765 or gloriac@yahoo.ca.

One or two bedrooms in three-bedroom townhouse, close to campus, mall and bus routes, laundry, central air, patio, access to pool, parking for one vehicle, non-smokers, no pets, available immediately or Sept. 1, \$380 a month per room or \$650 a month for both rooms, Jenn, 820-5021 after 5 p.m. or jenn_morrow@hotmail.com.

Lakefront cottage in Parry Sound area, both main cottage and guest cabin have two bedrooms, kitchen and bath, suitable for two families, \$1,200 a week for July, \$800 a week for June, September and October, photos available, 824-1773 or bgreen@rlroyalcity.com.

One-bedroom apartment in century home, bay windows, balcony, parking, suitable for single or couple, non-smokers, \$850 a month inclu-

sive; two-bedroom sublet in downtown century home, recently renovated, parking, yard, option to renew, non-smokers, \$600 a month inclusive, leave message at 829-8544.

Furnished basement room with attached bathroom, private entrance, access to kitchen, laundry, parking for one vehicle, available June 1, \$400 a month, Faye, 824-3634 or fandm@sentex.net.

Southampton cottage, two bedrooms, sleeps six, two baths, gas fireplace, Melody, 824-6264 or m.wren@exec.uoguelph.ca.

WANTED

Toddler Little Tikes-type outdoor play set with slide, Cindy, 824-8591 or csimon@uoguelph.ca.

House in Guelph area for family to housesit or rent, will care for plants and pets, references available, 780-0251 or mathesonadawn@hotmail.com.

Student to cut lawn in south-end subdivision, 836-4524.

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Free carpet for three bedrooms, excellent condition, 836-4524.

Care for your dog in my home while you travel, 836-8086 or cdeimmers@uoguelph.ca.

Classifieds is a free service for members of the U of G community. Submit items to Linda Graham on Level 4 of the University Centre, fax to 519-824-7962 or send e-mail to lgraham@exec.uoguelph.ca.



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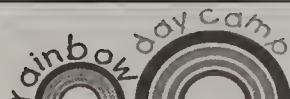
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EVENTS

ARBORETUM

Horticulturist Sean Fox will talk about trees and lead a walk through the Arboretum's World of Trees collection June 22 from 7 to 9 p.m. Cost is \$15. Registration and payment are required by June 8. Call Ext. 52358.

ART CENTRE

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre will host a dessert reception for the exhibition "Threadworks: The Garden Party" June 13 at 1 p.m. Members of the Ontario Network of Needleworkers will be in attendance. The show opens June 6 and continues to July 9.

CONFERENCE

The Canadian Society for Epidemiology and Biostatistics will hold its Central Region Student Conference June 9 from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the OVC Lifetime Learning Centre. Keynote speakers are Prof. David Walther-Toews, Population Medicine, and Jan Sargeant of McMaster University. For information, visit www.ovc.uoguelph.ca/conference/cseb2006, send e-mail to cseb2006@gmail.com or call Ext. 54595.

NOTICES

The Department of Athletics will host its first Women's Classic Golf Tournament June 23 to raise funds for the women's varsity teams. Tee-off time is 12:30 p.m. at the Victoria East Golf Club. A dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Cost of the day is \$115 per person, \$100 for U of G students. To register, to donate a prize or to obtain more information, contact Carolyn Walker at Ext. 52368 or cwalker@uoguelph.ca.

OPIRG-Guelph's annual Speed River cleanup is June 19, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Royal City Park. A free barbecue sponsored by Re/Max Realty will follow at McCrae House. In the event of a major storm, the cleanup and barbecue will be held June 17. For information or to arrange for free child care or bus tickets, call 824-2091 or send e-mail to opirg@uoguelph.ca.

The Guelph Jazz Festival, in conjunction with the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre and U of G, invite proposals for papers to be presented at the 2006 Guelph Jazz Festival Colloquium Sept. 6 to 8. The deadline for submissions is June 7. For more

information, send e-mail to jazzcoll@uoguelph.ca.

Brock University is hosting the conference "Investment and Citizenship: Towards a Transdisciplinary Dialogue on Child and Youth Rights" July 19 to 21. For details, visit www.childsrighs.ca.

The MacNaughton Building loading dock will be closed May 31 from 5 to 8 p.m. to enable asphalt repairs (weather permitting).

TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services presents "Teaching Dossier Refresher for Faculty" June 8 and July 12 and "Teaching Dossier Basics for Faculty" July 5. Register at www.tss.uoguelph.ca. If you have questions, call Trevor Holmes at Ext. 52963.

Training and support sessions for instructors using WebCT continue June 13 and 27 for beginners and June 6 and 21 for experienced users. Additional workshops are planned for July and August. Register at www.tss.uoguelph.ca. For information, call Mary Nairn at Ext. 53571.

WebCT clinics continue throughout the summer, running Wednesdays from 1 to 4 p.m. in McLaughlin 200A.

Voice coach Heather Hill leads the two-part workshop "Clear Communication for the Canadian Classroom" July 19 and 26. The session is designed for those whose first language is not English. Register at www.tss.uoguelph.ca.

THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of PhD candidate Gopal Patel, Molecular and Cellular Biology, is June 2 at 1 p.m. in Axelrod 337. The thesis is "Translational Control of Poly(A)-Binding Protein Expression." The adviser is Prof. Jnanankur Bag.

The final examination of Adeyemi Esuola, a PhD candidate in the Department of Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics, is June 14 at 10:30 a.m. in Thornbrough 1307. The thesis is "Economic Analysis of Sequestered Carbon Trading Between Large Final Emitters and Sequesterers of Carbon." The adviser is Prof. Alfons Weersink.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Guelph Symphony Orchestra conducted by Simon Irving presents "Music in the Park" June 11 at 3 p.m. at Riverside Park. Featured performers include classical accordionist Joe Macerollo and gypsy violinist Nandor Farkas. Tickets will be available at the gate.

The Guelph Guild of Storytellers will present storytelling at the Boathouse June 14 at 8 p.m.

Stephen Fearing will perform June 9 at 8 p.m. at War Memorial Hall. Proceeds are being donated to the Guelph Civic League. To reserve tickets, call 780-5030 or send e-mail to concert@guelphcivicleague.ca.

The Guelph Civic Museum hosts the opening of "Labouring All Our Lives: A Glimpse at Guelph's Working-Class History" June 15 from 7 to 9 p.m. Guest curator Bonnie Durnall will give a talk at 7:30 p.m.

The Food and Friends House Tour runs June 4 from noon to 4 p.m. Call 821-2370, Ext. 2363, for details.

Matches Made in Epicurean Heaven

Prof's new book aims to demystify the process of pairing food with wine and raise the level of gastronomic satisfaction from enjoyable to memorable

BY REBECCA KENDALL

CHOOSING A BOTTLE OF WINE to serve with dinner shouldn't be a stressful task, says Prof. Bob Harrington, Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM). Instead, visiting a wine shop and making a selection should be an adventure. "Variety is the spice of life," he says. "It's a lot of fun to look around at what's available and mix it up a bit."

Very few wines will ruin a meal, but knowing how to make better choices can raise the level of gastronomic satisfaction from enjoyable to memorable, says Harrington, who joined U of G in 2005 and has more than 30 years of practical and professional experience in hospitality. He uncorks his know-how in a new book called *Food and Wine Pairing: A Sensory Experience*, scheduled for release in February 2007.

The book serves up an overview of food and wine pairing, how food preparation methods can influence a match, and information about how the geography and climate of a region affect the food that's grown there.

"I wanted to demystify the whole process," says Harrington, adding that everyone from academics and students to industry workers and consumers can use his book to improve their skills. "People will learn, for example, that a saltier meal goes best with a wine with effervescence to cleanse the palate."

Readers will acquire this kind of knowledge through a series of exercises that are loosely based on a system he heard about while travelling through the Piedmont region of Italy with students from the Chef John Folse Culinary Institute at Nicholls State University in Louisiana. Harrington was dean of the institute from 2001 to 2005.

Piedmont's wine professionals used a grid to assess food and wine pairing, and he decided to develop a more user-friendly tool that would be useful to a variety of wine drinkers.

"The original grid was a little too complicated to understand without some significant training," he says. "The version in my book uses a more hierarchical approach to pairing decisions and creates a profile of the most prominent relationships of wine and food elements."

Harrington created a scale that identifies a variety of tastes and intensities. For example, food sweetness ranges from a Triscuit cracker on the low end to a Pepperidge Farm Bordeaux cookie on the high end. Similarly, wine sweetness varies from a Brut sparkling wine to a cream sherry.

"I may find something very sweet or mildly bitter, whereas someone else may disagree. By standardizing the progressions of these anchors with common food items, I have equalized that and given everyone the same starting point from which to assess flavours, textures and other components."

Also included in the scale are foods that represent measures of acidity, saltiness, bitterness, fattiness, overall body, spiciness, flavour intensity and persistence.

The idea is to create a relationship where the wine and food are equal partners in the match, says Harrington. Foods that are high in saltiness, bitterness, sourness and sweetness limit the possibilities when matching wines with them. The key is to know what flavours and intensities in food complement those found in wine and vice versa, he says. When it comes to food, people tend to enhance the eating experience by complementing sweet with sour, for example. The addition of a matching

sensory experience of wine adds another layer to that, he says.

"They can interact in an interesting way. There's a never-ending interaction and variety, and you can learn something new every day. Even if you have the same food using the same recipe, there will be slight variations if you have someone else preparing it."

Teaching members of the hospitality industry how to recommend a positive wine and food pairing has many beneficial effects, says Harrington.

"From a business perspective, we want guests to come away maximizing their customer or gastronomic satisfaction."

When staff are trained to enhance the dining experience, customers are not only more likely to make return visits to a restaurant, but they'll also be more apt to order wine with their meals, resulting in more revenue for a restaurant, he says.

In addition, learning more about the pairing process encourages people to experiment on their own by browsing wine shops more knowledgeably and having fun in their own kitchens by creating dishes that blend well with their wine selection.

"Part of it's an art, and part of it's science," says Harrington, noting that part of the fun lies in sampling the food and wine being worked with. "What could be bad about that? Even when they don't go together, it's still good."

Harrington grew up on a small ranch in Moses Lake, Wash., which is part of the second largest wine-making region in the United States, and his parents raised cattle and grew much of their own food. Many of his early memories involve watching his parents work the land and helping to make homemade preserves, pickles and sauerkraut.

INSIDE: WALK THIS WAY INTO U OF G HISTORY • NATIONAL KUDOS FOR PROJECT SERVE MISSISSIPPI

Bringing It Home for Alumni Weekend

Guelph grads return to campus for lecture, tours, reunions, golf tournament

UOF G ALUMNI may not actually fly faster than the speed of light, but they'll be thinking about travelling at nearly 300,000 kilometres per second when they arrive on campus June 23 for Alumni Weekend.

The annual alumni fest kicks off with a special Perimeter Institute lecture co-sponsored by the College of Physical and Engineering Science. It begins at 7 p.m. and features cosmologist João Magueijo, a professor at Imperial College in London, England.

Magueijo has developed the "variable speed of light theory" that suggests the speed of light is not a constant — as Einstein suggested — but has varied during the life of the universe. Magueijo's lecture is free and tailored to the general public. As with all Alumni Weekend events, members of the University community are invited to attend with

advance registration.

To round out the first evening, alumni guests will be invited to visit the Department of Physics observatory and attend a jazz session at the Bullying.

Friday will also see a new event co-hosted by the Department of Athletics and Alumni Affairs and Development. A women's golf tournament will be held at Victoria East Golf Club, with proceeds going to support women's varsity sports. The cost is \$115 per person, \$100 for students. Tee off is at 12:30 p.m.; the tournament concludes with dinner at 6:30 p.m. Visit www.alumni.uoguelph.ca/WomensGolf for more information.

Numerous events are planned for Saturday, but the feature presentation will be the traditional President's Lunch with a toast to the golden anniversary classes of 1956 and presentation of alumni awards

by the University of Guelph Alumni Association (UGAA).

Peter Hannam, BSA '62, will be named Alumnus of Honour; Martin Bosch, B.Sc. '69, M.Sc. '71 and PhD '04, will receive the Alumni Volunteer Award; and the Alumni Medal of Achievement will go to Crystal Mackay, B.Sc.(Agr.) '92. The Ontario Veterinary College Alumni Association will honour retired pathobiology professor Carlton Gyles, DVM '64, as OVC Distinguished Alumnus for 2006.

The UGAA and other alumni associations will hold annual meetings during Alumni Weekend, and numerous reunion gatherings are planned, including a 10th-anniversary celebration for the Faculty of Environmental Sciences.

Guelph alumni and their families are invited to tour the main campus, the library, Hagen Aqualab, the

Continued on page 9

Arts, Social Sciences Get Federal Support

SSHRC awards U of G \$900,000 for range of innovative research

UOF G RESEARCH in the arts, humanities and social sciences has received a \$900,000 boost from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC).

SSHRC is investing nearly \$81 million in research projects at 94 universities and colleges. Guelph's share is for 12 projects, with topics ranging from the history of health food stores to the federal judicial appointment process.

Prof. Steve Crawford, Integrative Biology, received \$189,963 to support his efforts to improve communication between aboriginal and western science knowledge systems. The award will allow him to develop a model to represent the structure and function of both systems.

"This model should be a very practical tool to compare and contrast aboriginal traditional knowledge and western science in a neutral environment," he says.

Prof. Renée Sylvain, Sociology and Anthropology, was awarded \$70,973 to study human rights and social justice from the perspective of

marginalized indigenous San living in remote areas of three southern African countries.

"I'm quite pleased because this is an opportunity to contribute to research capacity-building among San, publicize human rights issues that don't get a great deal of attention internationally, and promote networks between the academics at the University of Guelph and southern African scholars," Sylvain says.

SSHRC funding was also awarded to:

- Prof. James Amegashie, Economics, \$35,401 to study revenge and third-party intervention in conflicts.
- Prof. Catherine Carstairs, History, \$43,009 for research on the history of Canada's health food stores (see story on page 10).
- Prof. Rob de Loë, Geography, \$97,030 to examine water allocation in Alberta and New South Wales, Australia.
- Prof. Michael Hoy, Economics, \$38,900 for a project on the effec-

tiveness of private and social insurance policy options.

- Prof. Ric Knowles, English and Theatre Studies, \$68,258 to study how Toronto's multiculturalism is reflected in its performance arts (see story on page 6).
- Prof. Jesse Palsesia, History, \$107,022 to examine the public career of Indian businessman Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy.
- Troy Riddell, Political Science, \$65,842 for research on the federal judicial appointment process.
- Norman Smith, History, \$75,015 to explore Chinese narratives of alcohol and opiate addiction in the popular culture of Manchuria from 1900 to the 1940s.
- Henry Thille, Economics, \$47,377 to study the link between the size of firms in a market and the use of inventories to smooth prices.
- David Walters, Sociology and Anthropology, \$54,772 to look at the earnings and employment outcomes of post-secondary graduates.



Prof. Susan Brown says what makes *Orlando* different from other digital archives created by academics is that it contains all original material.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Orlando Goes Beyond Google

Online history uses power of computing in new ways

BY RACHELLE COOPER

PROF. SUSAN BROWN, School of English and Theatre Studies, is helping to transform online humanities research. She and two co-editors at the University of Alberta have created *Orlando*, a 5.5-million-word history of women's writing in the British Isles that uses an online search and indexing system with capabilities beyond Google.

"Everyone loves Google, but it's really not adequate for academics in the humanities because often we need to be able to search more effectively without having a specialized search term," says Brown. "We wanted to push the limits on scholarly research by creating a resource that uses the power of computing in

new ways."

Academics have recently begun creating sophisticated digital archives that make existing work available, but what makes *Orlando: Women's Writing in the British Isles From the Beginnings to Present* different is that it contains all original material and is the equivalent of more than 40 books, she says.

In creating *Orlando*, named after the 1928 Virginia Woolf book, Brown and her co-editors designed the content and the means of delivery of their text simultaneously, allowing researchers to locate answers to precise, complex questions.

"You can find anything from women writers responding to Jane Austen to references to cats in

Continued on page 14



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from the president

Convocation Perfect Time to Reflect on Lasting Impact of Faculty, Staff on Students

Editor's note: President Alastair Summerlee welcomes comments on his column at president@uoguelph.ca.

CONVOCATION IS AN EMOTIONAL TIME on campus. There's something so touching about seeing our students dressed up in their gowns, walking across the stage, with proud family members and friends waiting to congratulate them.

But I know that, for many members of the U of G community, it's often a bittersweet moment. We have watched these students grow and develop intellectually, emotionally and socially over the years and have had a helping hand in the process. We're excited for them as they begin their new adventures, but we will wonder, worry about and miss them.

After all, these students, with their diplomas in hand and their ready-to-take-on-the-world attitudes, are reminders to all of us at Guelph of why we do what we do.

Our jobs — our passions even — involve enriching the minds and lives of these students while they are here, in hopes that the lessons they've learned will serve them well once they move on to their new lives.

But it's a two-way street, because the students enrich us, too. Their fresh ideas keep us thinking and rethinking, no matter how many years we've worked at the University. They keep us centred and focused and inspire us to do more.

I tend to think about such things as I'm marching along with my colleagues, all of us dressed in our academic apparel, to the convocation stage. And I'm sure many faculty and staff are having similar thoughts.

But I wonder how many of them are also thinking about how much of a difference they have made in the lives of students. In the midst of final exams, marking, robe fittings and convocation plans, it can be easy to overlook this very important fact.

I believe convocation is the perfect time to think about the significant and lasting role our faculty and staff play in students' lives. I am also reminded of it each year at the Last Lecture. Students are encouraged to invite a faculty or staff member who contributed positively to their academic and personal growth to attend with them. Looking around the room, I always think about how, years from now, the students will always remember whom they asked to go to the Last Lecture with them and why.

Whenever I bump into any of our alumni around the world, the memories they most often want to share with me are of the professors and staff who motivated and inspired them. It doesn't matter whether they graduated a few years or a few decades ago — the impact endures.

It is with this in mind that I take this occasion to recognize all our faculty and staff for the incredible job they do and the positive impact they have on our students. I commend them for the dedication, effort, time and creativity they put into their work, whether it be in or out of the classroom. Indeed, the quality and innovation of their work are inspiring.

Allow me to summarize some of the many accomplishments of our faculty and staff over the past academic year.

One of our ecology professors received a Steacie Memorial Fellowship, one of Canada's premier science and engineering prizes from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council.

An assistant registrar, a technician, an IT supervisor and two directors received the President's Awards for

Exemplary Staff Service.

Two College of Arts professors were named to the Order of Canada, considered the country's highest honour of lifetime achievement, and an environmental scientist was named a Fellow of the Geological Society of America.

An assistant coach of the Gryphon women's wrestling program captured the gold medal at the world University Summer Games in Turkey.

Another faculty member received the Young Investigator Prize from the American Society of Naturalists, one of the top early career awards for evolutionary biologists.

The director of the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre received the 2005 Ontario Association of Art Galleries' curatorial writing award.

A U of G animal scientist was one of two people awarded to receive a new award recognizing outstanding commitment to improving the care and housing of laboratory animals.

Staff in the Office of Research received international recognition from the Council for the Advancement of Education for a magazine ad they created.

Three University of Guelph professors were listed among 90 "Pioneers of Computing" by the National Research Council.

One environmental biologist received the Gold Medal from the Entomological Society of Canada, and another was named a Fellow of the World Innovation Foundation.

Six of our staff and faculty were named recipients of the YMCA-YWCA's 2006 Women of Distinction Awards, including the director of open learning, who received a lifetime achievement award in education and training.

Numerous professors were honoured with faculty teaching awards from their departments and colleges, the U of G Faculty Association and the Central Student Association.

A theatre studies professor was named one of Canada's "Beautiful Minds" and received a Silver Ticket Award from the Toronto Theatre Alliance, which recognizes people who have excelled in their own careers while nurturing the development of Canadian theatre.

And a molecular and cellular biology professor won the 2006 Roche Diagnostics/CSM Award, the most prestigious honour given by the Canadian Society of Microbiologists.

I could go on and on. But I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge that earning these awards and accolades often involves sacrifices.

One of the things that sets Guelph apart is the level to which students are directly engaged in the teaching and learning process, but this requires commitment and co-operation from every member of the University community. It means tailoring teaching, work and research schedules around the needs of students, something all our faculty and staff have done devotedly.

This dedication has been fundamental to our success in providing students with a rewarding, distinctive and fruitful learning environment. It's also critical to the process of ensuring that when students leave this university, they are armed with the knowledge and skills that will help them excel in the future.

And it's why our graduates take with them many positive memories of the professors and staff members who helped them gain this knowledge and who made a difference in their lives.

AT GUELPH

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TALKS TO FOCUS ON VALUE OF LEARNING COMMONS

The U of G Library and the Learning Commons are hosting the conference "Towards a Learning Ecology: Canadian Learning Commons" June 19 and 20. Discussion will focus on the contributions libraries and learning commons can make to learning at university; collaboration among libraries, student services and others that contributes to student learning; and the design of spaces that support the academic mission of a university. For information, visit www.learningcommons.ca.

HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATE TO BE HONOURED AT BENEFIT

World-renowned human rights advocate Mu Sochua, who receives an honorary degree from Guelph this week, will be the guest of honour at a June 17 benefit organized by Prof. Ian Lubek, Psychology. It begins at 6 p.m. at Hugh's Room, 2261 Dundas St. W. in Toronto, and will include dinner, talks and musical performances. All funds raised will go to Cambodian NGOs to support women's empowerment and the fight against HIV/AIDS, violence and trafficking. For more information, contact Lubek at Ext. 53980 or ilubek@uoguelph.ca or visit www.hughroom.com/cambodia-benefit.html.

AND THE WINNER IS...

The following people correctly reported that the photo in *Ar Guelph's* May 31 "Where Are You Now?" column was taken in OVC's cafeteria: Fernanda Clark, Patricia Tersigni, Ed Reyes, Wendy Arthur, Elizabeth Lowenger, Jim Rahn, Meredith Craig, Kris Ruotsalo, Nicol Janecio, Ryla Alice Downie, Nick Anbeek, Amanda Beales, Michelle MacMillan and Ray Hutchinson. The names of everyone who correctly identified the photos published since January were entered in a draw for a \$50 gift certificate provided by the U of G Bookstore. The winner is John Van Manen of Physical Resources.

IN MEMORIAM

RALPH MORGAN

Ralph Morgan, a staff member in the Department of Plant Agriculture, died May 15 at the age of 62. He joined the University in 1966 and is survived by one brother.

PAULA SEIFRIED

Paula Seifried, a clerk in Student Health Services, died May 27 at age 52. She began working part time on campus in 1973 and joined the University full time in 1990. She is survived by her husband, Ron, and three children, Christopher, Michelle and Katie.

DOUG ZIMMER

Doug Zimmer, a part-time porter in the Ontario Veterinary College, died March 20 at the age of 68. Prior to his part-time position, he was employed at OVC full time from 1988 until 1997. He is survived by his wife, Jean; three children, Michael, Kim and Lynne; and four grandchildren.

Walk This Way Into U of G History

Plaques offer self-guided tour of campus and insights into University's past



Standing with the historical plaque for the President's House are, from left, Judy Nasby, director of the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre; Catherine Summerlee; president Alastair Summerlee; donor Anne Arrell; Martin Bosch; and U of G friend Wynn Bensen.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

BY REBECCA KENDALL

AS YOU WALK down Winegard Walk past the buildings that have become campus landmarks, you might remember meals you've had at Creelman Hall or the day you arrived on campus and moved into Mills, but do you know who Creelman and Mills were? If you don't, you're not alone.

"The individuals whose names adorn buildings on campus have done remarkable things," says three-time U of G chemistry graduate Martin Bosch, "but many of the people who've been connected to the University over the years don't know who those individuals were. I decided that needed to change."

For the past eight years, Bosch has been working with Alumni Affairs and Development to develop the U of G Historical Plaque Project, a 27-stop self-guided campus tour that explains the significance of those individuals and their contributions to the University. The tour also includes a bandful of buildings that don't bear anyone's name but are notable campus landmarks.

"U of G is a proud embodiment of its heritage," says Joanne Shovel, vice-president (alumni affairs and development). "The University's commitment to community, to the individual and to innovation is due to the foundation that was set through the building of the campus and its academic leadership. This tour that Martin has spearheaded provides a visible, continuous reminder of the spirit on which this University was built and challenges students, alumni, staff and faculty to

carry these values forward with passion and vision. We are grateful to Martin for his dedication and commitment."

The tour, which will be available in a web-based version on the U of G website beginning June 25, starts between Creelman Hall and Johnston Hall with a plaque that describes the founding of U of G. From there, people can take in as much of the tour as they like, says Bosch, who notes that it takes between two and three hours to hit all 27 sites.

"It takes time, but it's well worth it. This campus has some really interesting stories. U of G is steeped in history. We've been here since 1874, and by learning about the remarkable people who helped bring U of G to the place it is now, we get a heightened understanding of those who came before us and the legacy they've left."

Mills Hall is named for James Mills, the first president of the Ontario Agricultural College, who negotiated degree-granting status with the University of Toronto in 1888. He also launched the Farmers' Institutes of Ontario as an experiment in adult extension education and orchestrated the establishment of Macdonald Institute, the province's first college for women.

In 1892, his eldest daughter married George Creelman, who succeeded his father-in-law as president of OAC from 1904 to 1920. Creelman oversaw reorganization of the college staff and curriculum and ushered in a new era of specialization and research that more accurately reflected Ontario's needs.

He also championed the growth and work of the Ontario Women's Institutes and encouraged students and faculty to participate in international agriculture competitions and academic exchanges.

The President's House, which is now located north of College Avenue, was originally built on the site of Creelman Hall. The house was moved in 1912 using blocks, rails, skids, cables and three teams of horses, with the furniture and dishes still in place, to make way for Creelman Hall.

"Not a dish was cracked, and the pendulum clock in the living room wall never missed a beat during the move," reads the plaque that stands near the walkway to the house, which had been the home of the professor of agriculture since 1882.

As a condition of his employment, George Irving Christie was the first president to live there. "Before that, all the presidents and their wives and children lived in an apartment in Johnston Hall," says Bosch.

Those are just a few examples of the many interesting bits of campus history to be learned on the tour, he says, adding that Drew Hall, Raithby House, Watson Hall, the Hoodless Gardens and the MacLachlan Building are also among the stops.

"This project has been years in the making, and I hope people take the opportunity to stop by or go online to learn a little something about this great campus and the remarkable people who helped create this amazing institution. It's a unique way to say 'thanks' and to keep their spirits alive."

people

PSYCHOLOGY PROF NAMED HEALTH SCIENCES FELLOW

Prof. Barbara Morrongiello, Psychology, has been elected a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences, one of the highest honours for members of the Canadian health sciences community. Fellows are elected on the basis of their demonstrated leadership, creativity, distinctive competencies and commitment to advancing academic health sciences. Morrongiello will be inducted Sept. 27 in Ottawa.

HE'S THE GREATEST

Chancellor Lincoln Alexander has been named the "Greatest Hamiltonian of All Time" in a contest sponsored by the *Hamilton Spectator*. The newspaper had proposed a list of candidates, both living and deceased, and asked readers to vote for their top choice. Last month, the names of two finalists — Alexander and Arthur Weisz, a philanthropist and founder of the Effort Trust Company — were released.

CSA HONOURS DEDICATION TO STUDENTS, EDUCATION

Prof. Kim Renders, English and Theatre Studies, is this year's recipient of the Central Student Association's Teaching Excellence Award, which recognizes a U of G instructor who demonstrates profound dedication to undergraduates and to post-secondary education. Renders was recognized for her ability to motivate student learning and for her student-centred approach to teaching.

THOMPSON PLAY NOMINATED

Prof. Judith Thompson, English and Theatre Studies, has been nominated for a Dora Mavor Moore Award for "Best New Play" in the independent theatre category for her play *Enoch Arden*. Award winners will be announced at a ceremony June 26 at the Winter Garden Theatre in Toronto.

LAND RESOURCE SCIENTIST EARNS KUDOS FOR TEACHING

Prof. Stew Hiltz, chair of the Department of Land Resource Science, has received the Teaching Award of Merit from the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture. The award recognizes general teaching excellence and commitment to classroom, students and curriculum.

PHYSICIST GIVES CAP TALK

Prof. Ernie McFarland, Physics, gave the Herzberg Memorial Public Lecture in conjunction with the 61st annual congress of the Canadian Association of Physicists June 11 at Brock University. His topic was "Energy: Where on Earth Are We Going?"

RETIREMENT RECEPTION SET

A reception will be held June 27 for Bill Verspagen of the School of Engineering, who is retiring this summer after 36 years at U of G. It runs from 3 to 5 p.m. in Room 442 of the University Centre. Cost is \$25. RSVP by June 20 to Stephanie Wilson at Ext. 53720 or sawilson@uoguelph.ca.

Convocation Awards Honour Student Excellence

First Michael Nightingale Student Contribution Award to be presented at Guelph-Humber's inaugural convocation June 19

U OF G'S TOP STUDENT achievers are being honoured during convocation ceremonies this week at Guelph and next week at the University of Guelph-Humber's first convocation.

Sarah Roy is this year's winner of the Winegard Medal, Guelph's top convocation award for undergraduates. Named for former U of G president Bill Winegard, it recognizes both academic achievement and contributions to University and community life.

Roy, who graduates this week with a B.A.Sc. in child studies, has received a number of awards during her years at Guelph, including the Ontario Women's Institute Scholarship, the Dean's Scholarship and the Dorothy Britton Memorial Scholarship. She was an active member of Guelph Students for Literacy, the Child Studies Administrative Council, Campus Crusade for Christ and Intersivity Christian Fellowship.

Roy also volunteered in the community, serving breakfast to children in the Better Beginnings, Better Futures program at Onward Willow and caring for young children at the Guelph Community Health Centre and the Ontario Early Years Centre. In 2005, she travelled to Uganda to volunteer at the Chain Foundation Orphanage.

This fall, she will begin a master's program in speech language pathology at McGill University.

Other nominees for the Winegard Medal were Caroline Lee (OAC), Meg Wilson (CBS), Paul Le Marquand (CPES) and Ulla Laidlaw (College of Arts).

The recipient of this year's Forster Medal, U of G's top convocation award for graduate students, is Heather Mattila, a PhD graduate of the Department of Environmental Biology.

During her PhD program, Mattila, who held a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council post-graduate scholarship,

built up a sizable list of publication credits, including a book chapter in the *Ontario Beekeeping Manual* and a number of articles in prestigious journals such as the *Proceedings for the National Academy of Science*.

At U of G, she was a teaching assistant, instructor and guest lecturer and shared her work with the public at schools and community events and through the media. She also co-wrote a primer to help other PhD students survive and excel at their comprehensive exams, was a graduate student mentor and served on the board of the Provincial Entomological Society.

She currently holds a post-doctoral position at Cornell University.

The Forster Medal is named for the late Donald Forster, a former president of U of G, and recognizes academic achievement, motivation, leadership and citizenship. Other nominees were Andria Jones (OVC), Trent Stellingwerff (CBS), Bryan van der Ende (CPES) and Robert McLeman (CSAHS).

Aidan Abram is this year's winner of the

Walter Vaughan Medal. Named for a former secretary of Senate, the medal recognizes the contributions of a student member of Senate.

Abram, who graduates this week with a B.Sc. in earth surface science and international development, has served as co-chair of the University's United Way campaign and was a member of Board of Governors, the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences Student Alliance board and the Central Student Association board. He is also a past president of Mills Hall. In April, he received a Brian D. Sullivan Student Leadership Award.

Abram, who plans a career in urban sustainability, is currently employed at a Guelph consulting firm, working on projects related to climate change.

Four Governor General's Medals are also being presented during summer convocation. The gold medal recognizes academic achievement at the master's level, the silver medal goes to the undergraduate student with the highest marks, and the bronze medal is awarded to the student earning top marks in OAC's associate

diploma programs in agriculture and horticulture.

This year's gold medallist is JingBo Ni, an M.Sc. graduate in computing and information science who is now enrolled in a PhD program at Guelph.

Silver medals went to engineering B.Sc. graduate Laura Wagner and zoology B.Sc. graduate Christopher Martin.

The bronze medallist is Vanessa McDougall, who holds an associate diploma in agriculture from U of G's Kemptville Campus.

On June 19, University of Guelph-Humber student Melissa Melo will receive the inaugural Michael Nightingale Student Contribution Award. Named for the institution's first vice-provost and chief academic officer, the award is presented to a graduating student who has made significant contributions to the University of Guelph-Humber community and who has demonstrated commitment to enriching the student experience.

Melo, a media studies student who will graduate with a bachelor of applied arts from U of G and a diploma in journalism from Humber, has been involved in a number of organizations over the past four years. In addition to being a student ambassador pre-orientation program leader and speaking to students and parents about Guelph-Humber, she is past president of activities for the University of Guelph-Humber Student Association and has organized a number of campus events. She is also the founding co-ordinator of the Goodwill Unit, a club at Guelph-Humber that aims to raise awareness and promote community service.

Two Vice-Provost Awards for Academic Excellence will also be presented. The awards, which go to students graduating with the highest average in their program, will be presented to business student Digita Baidya and media studies student Melaya Bogers.

Hume to Be Honoured

AT THE CONVOCATION CEREMONY for the Ontario Agricultural College June 15 at 2:30 p.m., retired crop science professor Dave Hume will be named University professor emeritus.

Hume began his teaching career at U of G in 1966 and became chair of the Department of Crop Science, which later became the Department of Plant Agriculture, in 1992. From 1999 to 2001, he served as executive director of the U of G/OMAFRA research partnership. In 2001, he was named U of G's interim associate vice-president (research) for agri-food and partnerships. He returned

to teach in the Department of Plant Agriculture in 2003 and retired in 2005.

During his career, Hume made significant strides in the expansion of the soybean crop in Ontario. His work also provided the foundation for the expansion of spring canola and the introduction of winter canola in Ontario. He was the first scientist in the world to publish research on day-length insensitivity in soybeans and the impact of cool night temperatures on soybean seed production and to identify the physiological reason for improved yields in modern soybean cultivars.

Internet Boosts International Interest in HTM's Hospitality Managers' Development Course

"It's fascinating to listen to people who come from a service environment that is totally different from ours"

BY LORI BONA HUNT

THE SCHOOL of Hospitality and Tourism Management has just wrapped up another successful round of management development programs aimed at middle and senior managers from industry, said Prof. Geoff Smith, director of executive and management development programs and interim chair of the recently created Department of Business.

What made 2006 different from previous years? "In a global economy and with a mission to become better known internationally, the school is relying more and more on the impact of its website to reach international participants," said Smith.

Take Ismail Faseeh, for example. Human resources manager for the Bandos Island Resort in Maldives, he knew very little about U of G, the city of Guelph or even Canada when he boarded a plane for a 22-hour trip to Toronto's Pearson airport last month to attend U of G's Hospitality

Managers' Development Course (HMDC).

"I was searching the Internet for hospitality programs," he said. "I happened to find this one, and it seemed perfect." So he signed up, flew to Toronto and drove to Guelph.

The week the course was held — May 27 to June 1 — turned out to be a hot one, with temperatures above 30 C and humidex levels in the 40s. But Faseeh wasn't fazed. "This is nothing for me," he said, noting that temperatures in Maldives hover around 40 C at this time of year.

"I'm really enjoying the course, and the people, who come from many backgrounds, are very warm and friendly."

Faseeh was one of five people enrolled in this year's program who came from outside Canada. All 25 course participants work in various sectors of the hospitality and tourism industry, ranging from food services to management and human resources. That diversity was beneficial, he said, "because it gives me a

better understanding about a lot of different things."

The presence of Faseeh and the other international participants shows that U of G's programs are becoming increasingly popular outside Canada, says Smith.

When HMDC began in 1987, most of the participants were from Ontario. Gradually, people started enrolling from other parts of Canada and, eventually, from the United States and other countries, he says.

"I'd like to think it's due entirely to our reputation. Although I'm sure that's an important factor, there's no doubt that we've been able to attract more people because of the power of the Internet."

Khalid Al-Badi also found out about the course via the World Wide Web. He came from Saudi Arabia, where he heads his own specialty hospitality service company. Like Faseeh, this was his first visit to Canada.

Al-Badi said he particularly enjoyed the group "thinking, listening and learning" involved in the

HMDC program. "We are all at different levels, from different cultures, and many of us speak different languages. It makes it very interesting."

Smith said it doesn't matter how word gets out about the program.

"What's important is that all kinds of people enrol and take something back with them. It's fascinating to listen to people who come from a service environment that is totally different from ours. It brings a new perspective to the program."

Canadian Karen Heinzl came to the program not via the Internet but via her job as senior manager of food services with the Department of National Defence in Winnipeg. The department has a long-standing relationship with Guelph's hospitality management program and selects one or two employees each year from a pool of applicants to attend the course.

"It's a great opportunity, and the Department of National Defence recognizes the value of the program," said Heinzl, a 1984 B.Comm. graduate of Guelph. "Ev-

eryone has the opportunity to share their experiences, to discover the trends and the different dimensions of the industry, and to get up to speed on the issues people are facing."

Even though she works in government, "the issues we face aren't too different from what people in the public sector are dealing with. It's very applicable."

HMDC covers all aspects of business management, with the goal of strengthening a participant's ability to help improve operations effectiveness, human resource management and financial performance.

"It's been great, far different from other programs I've done," said Faseeh, who has also taken courses in Malaysia, Singapore and Sri Lanka. He will use the new knowledge gained to help him in his role of overseeing some 500 employees.

"We are the largest resort in Maldives," he said, adding that he has invited many of his course mates to stop by for a visit "when they are in my town."

Connecting With Young Alumni

BY REBECCA KENDALL

A RELATIONSHIP with U of G begins as soon as a student confirms his or her acceptance and should last a lifetime. At least that's how Jason Moreton, alumni officer for advancement programs in Alumni Affairs and Development, sees it.

Moreton was hired in 2005 to raise the profile of Alumni Affairs and Development within student circles and to create new, fun and exciting opportunities for young alumni, specifically graduates of the last decade, to grow as professionals in their fields and maintain their bond with the University.

He'll be connecting with young alumni during Alumni Weekend June 23 to 25 and encourages recent graduates to attend.

"Many younger grads think Alumni Weekend is for older alumni, but it's really for everyone," he says. "They should plan to attend because it's going to be a great time."

Moreton's work with young alumni begins well before they collect their degrees. It starts with reaching out to them before they even arrive on campus through events like the student send-offs that welcome incoming students to the University. Events are held in a number of Ontario cities and are used to familiarize students and their families with the University and to answer any last-minute questions. They're staffed primarily by U of G student ambassadors and young alumni who volunteer their time.

"Leaving home to come to university is a big step, and students and parents sometimes need that extra bit of reassurance," says Moreton, who graduated from U of G with a degree in political science in 2000, has a master's from Wilfrid Laurier University and has worked for the Canadian Centre for Philanthropy



Jason Moreton helps foster and sustain alumni connections, beginning when a student first arrives at Guelph.
PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

in Toronto and the St. Joseph's Healthcare Foundation in Hamilton. "We also want them to know that they're part of a community that looks out for one another, and this helps to show that."

It's vital for Alumni Affairs and Development to be involved with students throughout their academic career at Guelph, he says. During the winter semester, he created a partnership with other departments and groups to offer a week of events designed to recognize the achievements and successes of U of G's graduating students and to prepare them for life after graduation.

The week included events to con-

nect students to programs, services and benefits available to them after graduation, and provided information on alumni chapter events, reunions and publications such as *The Portico* and the *E-newsletter*. Other activities included career-planning and job-search workshops and aptitude and skills assessments.

Strong cross-campus relationships are a key ingredient for successful events, says Morton, adding that Homecoming 2006 is a prime example of this kind of co-operation.

"We're working with the Department of Athletics, Hospitality Services, Interhall Council, the Central

Student Association, Campus Community Police, the City of Guelph and various alumni to offer a huge celebration for students, alumni and the local community in September."

In addition to the traditional football game, Homecoming will feature a barbecue, a Kids' Fun Zone, a draw for free tuition, a live half-time performance and a post-game concert.

For the upcoming school year, Moreton has also partnered with Co-op Education and Career Services to offer a speakers' series that will cover a variety of topics, including etiquette, networking and leadership. Kim Parlee, a U of G

B.Comm. graduate and journalist for *Report on Business* television, will be the keynote speaker at the first lecture planned for September.

Strong networking opportunities and mentoring programs to connect with people in their chosen fields, as well as recreational and social events to help them keep in touch with friends from U of G, are among the wants and needs of this generation of alumni, says Moreton.

In response, he has introduced a number of activities over the past year, including "Dancing With Alumni" at a Guelph nightclub, a trivia night for young alumni in Toronto and a pub night for young alumni and students in Ottawa. He also sponsored two alumni teams in the 2006 Southern Ontario Amazing Race, a competition held earlier this month that, much like the TV version of *The Amazing Race*, involved a number of physical and mental challenges. One of his teams won the race.

In the months to come, young alumni will also attend a trivia night in Hamilton and an alumni night at the Rogers Cup in Toronto.

"Our alumni display an outstanding amount of nostalgia and pride for the University, and this really becomes apparent at our events," says Moreton. "I want those feelings to last, and I want to make sure we always have a strong alumni base."

Alumni Affairs and Development hosts an extensive online community at www.oclcnetwork.net/uoguelph with more than 20 bulletin boards for students and alumni to reconnect with old friends and teammates or find mentors in their chosen fields.

To find out about alumni events and activities in Guelph and abroad, call Ext. 56437 or visit www.alumni.uoguelph.ca.

Project Serve Mississippi Wins Innovation Award

Student calls trip 'one of the most meaningful experiences of my life'

BY LORI BONA HUNT

A U OF G INITIATIVE that involved students spending Reading Week helping communities ravaged by hurricane Katrina has earned a national award.

Project Serve Mississippi was honoured with a 2006 Innovation Award from the Student Affairs and Services Association (SASA), a division of the Canadian Association of College and University Student Services. The award will be presented June 20 in Hamilton.

"I was really quite surprised by the honour," says Christine Victorino, co-ordinator of citizenship and community engagement in Student Life, who spearheaded the Mississippi project.

Forty-one U of G students and two staff members travelled by bus to Hattiesburg, Miss., in February. There they partnered with students from the University of Southern Mississippi to help with hurricane relief efforts. They also explored themes related to Black History Month, the civil rights movement and education.

"The trip had a huge impact on the students, especially seeing the devastation of a natural disaster so close up," says Victorino. "Everyone felt good about being able to offer some level of support."

Indeed, Kira Kumagai, a third-year arts and science student, calls Project Serve Mississippi "one of the most meaningful experiences of my life. It has affected me as a student and as a global citizen."

Student and team leader Hava Goldberg agrees. "Project Serve Mississippi is an experience that will always stick out in my mind. Not only were we given the opportunity to reach out to people in need, but we were also entrusted with the responsibility of bearing witness and telling others about what we experienced. It truly opened my eyes and allowed me to learn so many lessons that simply cannot be taught in the classroom."

Both students say they're pleased and proud to hear of the SASA award.

"It makes me feel so satisfied to know that all the hard work put into this by the Guelph staff and students, as well as our counterparts

at the University of Southern Mississippi, is being recognized and commended," says Goldberg.

Kumagai adds that the award highlights "the incredible involvement resources available to U of G students. The next step is finding ways to make more students realize how significant these experiences really are and to make more of these programs available to them."

The Mississippi initiative also received na-

tional media attention. Global TV did a feature story about the Guelph students before they left and then met up with them in Mississippi.

The initiative was part of Project Serve Canada, an alternative Reading Week program co-ordinated by the citizenship education program in Student Life. Other U of G students spent the week working with homeless and at-risk youth in Calgary and Guelph and learning about native life in Pikangikum, Ont.

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The forests Prof. Karl Cottenie studies are made of kelp and lie under water, attached to the rocky sea floor along coastlines in North America and around the world. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

The Forest Beneath the Seas

Study by U of G ecologist shows threat posed by fishing on marine ecosystems

BY ANDREW VOWLES

A"FOREST" threatened by overfishing? A new study involving a recently arrived U of G ecologist suggests that agencies and environmental groups hoping to preserve coastal marine ecosystems called kelp forests need to focus far more on the effects of fishing than the impact of pollution.

Controlling fishing may be up to 10 times more effective than pollution mitigation in preserving under-sea kelp forests such as those growing around the California Channel Islands between Santa Barbara and Los Angeles, says Prof. Karl Cottenie, Integrative Biology.

The study results appear in a paper published last month in *Science* by Cottenie and two researchers from the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS) and the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Cottenie used his academic background in ecology and statistics to analyze data collected during the past quarter-century from around three of the eight islands in the

southern California chain.

Understanding the relative impacts of fishing and pollution is important for making decisions about measures from controlling particular activities to preserving areas as nature reserves, he explains.

The research team looked at the abundance of almost 50 species of fish and invertebrates in this area, as well as satellite-derived estimates of amounts of algae, the base of the food chain. They found that fishing accounted for up to 10 times as much variation in numbers of different creatures as did runoff from agriculture, industry or municipal waste water.

Kelp, or seaweed, forms the "trees" of so-called kelp forests attached to the rocky sea floor of shallow coastal waters. These underwater forests, rarely deeper than about 40 metres, are found along both North American coastlines and around the world.

They include some of the world's fastest-growing plants; one kelp species in southern California grows up to 30 centimetres a day. The forest is a complex ecosystem of plants, invertebrates such as sea urchins and starfish, and various species of fish.

The researchers found that overfishing of top predators, including lobster, whelks and rockfish, could allow their prey species to overgraze the plants, effectively threatening the base of the food chain. That overfishing turned out to be a much greater threat than pollution from the nearby mainland.

Cottenie says the study lends support to plans to expand Channel Islands National Park. The nature reserve covers almost 250,000 acres, half of them underwater. One of his co-authors at the NCEAS has played a key role in planning for that marine reserve.

Cottenie spent more than two years in a post-doc position at the NCEAS before coming to Guelph last summer. Earlier he had studied

ecology and statistics at the Catholic University of Leuven in his native Belgium.

"It was a perfect match for me," he says of this project, which involved analyzing piles of data on numerous species, environments and other variables. "To connect them, you need more complicated statistical techniques."

In another paper in press, the trio discusses their unexpected finding that the kelp forest showed no signs of the effects of global warming. The islands occupy the boundary between areas of warm- and cold-water upwelling (partly explaining the incredible diversity of the forest).

"There was a fear that this boundary would move further north," he says, adding that the area needs further study.

A third paper in the works will discuss optimum design for kelp forest nature reserves. Comparing kelp forest food webs in two national reserve sites with those in unprotected spots, Cottenie was able to trace differences in these ecosystems directly to the effects of fishing. "There was a clear difference in the community structures."

How applicable are their results to similar ecosystems in other parts of the world?

"A lot of things are so context-dependent," he says. "I think this result for the kelp forest will be quite generalizable across the region, but we don't know."

Here at Guelph, Cottenie plans to use the California research for further studies of dynamics of ecological communities. He's also preparing to study everything from temporary pools in the U of G Arboretum to potholes in Manitoba. "I'm out to understand the world."

He belongs to Ecology @ Guelph, a new research group of about 40 faculty and 100 graduate students from six departments across campus. It's one of the largest ecology research groups in Canada.

Prof Explores Links Between Theatre, Multiculturalism

Goal is to learn how people in performance arts view themselves in relation to Toronto's multicultural identity

BY RACHELLE COOPER

TORONTO CLAIMS to be the world's most multicultural city and the third most active theatre centre in the English-speaking world, and Prof. Ric Knowles, English and Theatre Studies, wants to determine how these two claims might be related.

"Identities don't really exist until they're performed," says Knowles. "The field of performance studies is useful for analyzing how individual, social, community and cultural identities are formed and shaped."

There's no shortage of multicultural theatre companies and festivals in the greater Toronto area — African-Canadian, Asian, First Nations, Latino, Filipino and others that cross cultures. Knowles suggests that these companies not only constitute individual communities within Toronto but also contribute to the identity of the entire city.

He's driving into Toronto about three days a week to attend theatre, spoken-word, dance and other types of performance to observe the identities that are being created. He's looking at the people involved in the productions, the languages spoken in the performances and the people who make up the audiences.

"Mainstream" productions by commercial theatre companies with high ticket prices tend to attract primarily older white audience members, for whom a multicultural show "might be merely a curious piece of exotica," says Knowles. "Grassroots intercultural productions, however, are not only developing new shows and new writers but they're also developing new audiences."

He notes that a lot of work is being done to develop audiences among people who don't normally go to theatre. Native Earth Performing Arts, for example, "has a person working specifically to liaise with native organizations and individuals to get that audience out."

Knowles wants to determine what audiences are identifying with when they see a show. Plays have increasingly been incorporating languages other than English in their productions, he says. This can deliberately divide an audience to make the non-native English speakers the insiders.

"It also lets you know what it's like to be a linguistic outsider," he says. "Sometimes people get quite offended when they can't understand a speech being delivered in a language other than English."

The point is sometimes to encourage people from different cultures to talk to each other at intermission to piece together the parts of the play they didn't understand, he says.

By conducting interviews with directors, actors, stage managers and

audience members, Knowles hopes to learn how people in performance arts view themselves in relation to Toronto's multicultural identity. He's focusing his research on the period since the Canadian Multiculturalism Act was passed in 1988, but says he'll also look back to the introduction of multiculturalism as an official policy in 1971 and its entrenchment in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms in 1982, and examine patterns of immigration as they pertain to Toronto.

Knowles is discovering that many people don't fit neatly into cultural categories within the city's performing arts companies. One of his former students, Nina Lee Aquino, a Filipino-Canadian, is the artistic director of the fu-GEN Asian Canadian Theatre Company, directs and writes for the Carlos Bulosan Theatre, is the marketing director for Native Earth Performing Arts and is director of the CrossCurrents Festival, which represents theatre that cuts across different cultural communities.

"There are dozens of people who work across different cultures," he says. "This is resulting in strategic alliances across these communities that form a larger community of difference within the city."

Another way to explain his research is to think of Toronto as a performance ecology, says Knowles.

"A healthy ecosystem has a healthy diversity of species, and that's sort of the bottom line as a way of looking at Toronto's performance ecology. Does it have a healthy diversity? What is the impact of this bit of it on that bit of it and ultimately on Toronto as a larger community?"

Intercultural performance studies is far from a new area of research for Knowles. He's currently working on the second volume of *Staging Coyote's Dream*, an anthology of First Nations drama that he's co-editing with First Nations playwright and actor Monique Mojica of Toronto.

He's also writing a collection of essays with African-Canadian playwright and former U of G writer-in-residence Djanet Sears. As the editor of *Canadian Theatre Review*, Knowles has already dedicated issues to African-Canadian theatre, First Nations theatre, Asian- and South Asian-Canadian theatre and translation, and plans to bring in someone from the community to help compile an issue on Canada's performance ecology.

This is the first year of his three-year study funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. Once he finishes his study of Toronto, Knowles hopes to extend his work to look at intercultural performance in Canada.

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Mapping Out a Plan for Sleeping Sickness

OVC PhD candidate's research aims to help Uganda battle deadly parasitic infection

BY ANDREW VOWLES

HELPING TO BATTLE a deadly parasitic disease in Uganda — an affliction threatening an estimated 60 million people in several sub-Saharan African countries — is the goal of research by a U of G doctoral candidate.

Lea Berrang Ford of the Department of Population Medicine hopes her studies of African sleeping sickness will help health officials and humanitarian agencies halt its renewed spread in the conflict-ridden East African country.

Berrang Ford, who defended her PhD thesis earlier this month, was the lead author of a research paper published this spring in *Emerging Infectious Diseases*, published by the National Center for Infectious Diseases within the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Her spatial analysis of sleeping sickness in Uganda since the 1970s marries the student's longtime interests in health, environment and mapping — not to mention offering a way to tackle a disease that continues to bedevil several African nations.

Her thesis shows that the rapid northward spread of sleeping sickness from southeastern Uganda is linked to changes in human exposure to tsetse flies — the vector for the *Trypanosoma* parasite — and movement of the parasite to new areas, probably through infection of cattle. She says the highest-risk areas are rural districts with moderate to high amounts of vegetation cover, plenty of tsetse fly habitat, high cattle infection and civil conflict.

Berrang Ford urges that authorities focus monitoring and prevention activities in the centre of the country to prevent further spread, including the potential merging of two forms of the parasite that currently occupy the southern and northern regions.

"Merging would be a nightmare," she says.

In addition, she questions a current attempt to eradicate the tsetse fly from the continent, including releasing sterile males to limit breeding. "It's a great idea in theory," she says, but civil conflict and cost may make the strategy less feasible.

Berrang Ford calls for better monitoring of cattle and use of insecticide along with selective clearing of habitat. And she suggests that medical, veterinary and entomological agencies improve communications and co-ordination.

She has shared her results with officials in Uganda and with representatives of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. She plans to write a more pointed report to spur action.

"It could make a measurable impact," she says, although she concedes that "it's hard to change policy."

Berrang Ford co-authored the article in *Emerging Infectious Diseases* with her co-supervisors: Profs. David Waltner-Toews, John McDermott and Olaf Berke.

"Diseases like sleeping sickness that can remain in the background and can flare up with important consequences are often ignored," says McDermott, writing in an e-mail from Nairobi, where he serves as deputy director-general of research with the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI). "Work done by Lea and other colleagues has helped to highlight the factors that lead to disease spread and impact on the poor."

Berrang Ford, Waltner-Toews and McDermott also co-wrote an article on the topic that was published last summer in *EcoHealth*. Other co-authors of that report were Dominique Charron of the Public Health Agency of Canada; Prof. Barry Smit, Geography; and Martin Odiit of the Ugandan Ministry of



Lea Berrang Ford connects longtime interests in health, environment and mapping.
PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Health. (A third paper will be published in the *Transactions of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*.)

Waltner-Toews says that, by pinpointing the causes of sleeping sickness in existing and new areas, his student's research will help the Ugandan government fight the disease more precisely and effectively.

"Her work is important because it highlights the interactions among

socio-political upheavals, land-use changes and disease emergence," he says. "The impacts of the social upheavals linger on far after they've been resolved, and this helps health workers watch for these longer-term effects and, hopefully, prevent further disease spread in the rebuilding efforts."

Berrang Ford visited Africa three times between 2002 and last December. Most of her work involved por-

ing over archived sleeping sickness data for the past three decades, working in the Ugandan capital, Kampala, and at regional health centres. She was based at ILRI in Kenya.

Sleeping sickness was nearly eradicated in sub-Saharan Africa by the 1950s, but two decades later, it came back. Berrang Ford blames a combination of civil war and unrest and greater attention by health providers and funding agencies on other diseases, notably HIV-AIDS and malaria.

Last month, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation gave \$22.6 million to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for a clinical trial of a prospective new oral drug for treating sleeping sickness. The trial will take place in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan and Angola.)

Uganda is the fourth hardest-hit country in the region. A largely rural disease, sleeping sickness is often unreported, but left untreated, it is fatal.

Berrang Ford studied environmental geography at Guelph before heading to the University of Oxford for a master's degree in environmental change and management. That new one-year program involved just 30 students from 20 countries, including James Ford, a native of Manchester, England, who came to Guelph for PhD studies in geography. He and Berrang Ford were married last year.

For her African studies, she landed a doctoral research award from the International Development Research Centre of Canada, along with funding from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council.

This fall, she'll begin work as an epidemiologist with the Public Health Agency of Canada, using spatial analysis to study infectious diseases.

OVC Researchers Take Aim at 'Silent Disease'

Team hopes new mouse model will point the way to treatments for ovarian cancer

BY ANDREW VOWLES

"WE CAN'T LET any more women go through this." Those words from one listener at a recent talk given by Prof. Jim Petrik, Biomedical Sciences, reflect the conviction he himself feels about his studies aimed at ovarian cancer, the fifth-highest cause of cancer deaths among Canadian women.

Now Petrik hopes a new development in his Ontario Veterinary College laboratory will ultimately improve diagnosis and treatment of this killer disease, including leading the way to new drugs to effectively choke tumour growth.

"It's a treatable disease if we can get to it early enough," he says.

Working with colleague Prof. Roger Moorehead and PhD student Jim Greenaway, Petrik has developed a mouse model for *in vivo* testing of the disease. They've been collaborating with researchers at the University of West-

ern Ontario and Harvard University. Last fall, Petrik received a \$500,000 grant from the newly formed Ontario Cancer Research Network to support this work.

Until now, researchers have relied on artificially cultured clumps of cells and immunocompromised mice that poorly mimic disease progression in normal animals. Over the past 18 months, the U of G researchers have perfected a technique for injecting cancer cells directly into mouse ovaries. (The tumour cells come from a reproductive biologist at Kansas State University who first isolated them.)

Ovarian cancer spontaneously occurs in about two months, allowing the researchers to follow tumour progression, including characteristic development of secondary lesions and fluid buildup. Petrik hopes to hunt down particular genes and proteins involved in that progression as candidate targets for early diagnosis and treatment.

Conceding that the disease and particular genes may not work exactly the same in mice and humans, he says researchers know enough about cancer genetics to suspect that certain biochemical pathways and early "biomarkers" may be common.

Petrik is now working with an American pharmaceutical company making anti-angiogenic drugs, or compounds that curtail blood vessel growth and effectively cut off the tumour's supply of oxygen and nutrients. In addition, he and Moorehead are discussing collaborations with an ovarian cancer research group at the University of Toronto.

Clinicians and other researchers are offering positive reviews of the new development, says Petrik, who presented his work at a recent conference. It generated particular interest among clinical oncologists who see the disease every day in their clinics, he says.

About 1,500 Canadian women die of ovar-

ian cancer each year, and about 2,500 new cases occur annually, according to the National Ovarian Cancer Association in Toronto. It's usually diagnosed only in later stages, earning it the nickname of the "silent disease." Its vague symptoms include abdominal pain or swelling, nausea and bloating, all of which may be ascribed to other problems.

Outside his OVC lab, Petrik has spoken about his work occasionally to cancer survivor groups and supporters.

"Women are so concerned about other women having to go through this," he says. "I really try to stay grounded with my research, and I appreciate the opportunity to interact with people who make what I'm doing relevant."

Along with Moorehead, he took part in a Canadian Cancer Society Relay for Life fundraiser last weekend in Fergus, including speaking during a candlelight ceremony.

Environmental Collapse and Political Reform

"Political cynicism is so pervasive as to discourage people from even looking to the political sphere for solutions"

BY LYNN McDONALD

EARTH DAY CAME AND WENT in April with ever more worrisome warnings of species and resource depletion, global warming and environmental pollution. As we marked Environment Week June 4 to 10, Ottawa was preoccupied with Canada's cancellation of its commitment to the Kyoto Accord and tinkering with Senate reform. Why are we not acting on what we know to be real and serious fundamental problems concerning our health and indeed survival on this planet?

From ordinary warnings of decline, there is now a "collapse" literature predicting environmental destruction on a scale to result in massive extinctions and societal collapse. Most of this writing includes recommendations for reform — how we can mend our ways and avoid collapse if we act now.

It's worth pondering the weight as well as the number of these contributions. Some were commissioned by respected organizations and draw on the work of leading scientists, e.g., the United Nations' World Commission on Environment and Development, *Our Common Future*, 1987; the Science Council of Canada's *Canada as a Conserver Society*, 1977; and the Royal Society of Canada's *Planet Under Stress*, 1980. Some are by eminent people, e.g., Rachel Carson's classic *Silent Spring*, 1962, and Jared Diamond's *Guns, Germs and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies*, 1997, which won a Pulitzer Prize.

Ronald Wright's *Short History of Progress* was commissioned as the Massey Lectures for 2004. It optimistically gives advice for reform before it's too late: "We have the tools and the means to share resources, clean up pollution, dispense basic health care and birth control, set economic limits in line with natural ones." If we don't, says Wright, we will enter "an age of chaos and collapse that will dwarf all the dark ages of our past," and this before the 21st century grows very old. "Now is our last chance to get the future right."

Some steps have been taken in response to these warnings over the years. "Round tables" were established in Canada after *Our Common Future*. Tougher laws on pesticides were brought in by many countries after *Silent Spring*. Warnings about the thinning of the ozone layer resulted in controls over ozone-depleting substances. Acid rain was taken seriously enough to re-

sult in curbs on emissions in cars and power plants. But on the Kyoto Accord — only a modest first step for environmentalists — Canada never moved to action at all and is now using its status as a "producer" of fossil fuels to justify lesser action.

Diamond explains why people fail to take needed action in his 2004 book, *Collapse: How Human Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*. The reasons include failure to anticipate problems (e.g., rabbits brought into Australia), failure to notice when problems develop gradually (did anyone notice when the last tree went on Easter Island?) and the "tragedy of the commons," when what is advantageous for a few (e.g., catching fish) becomes disastrous when pursued by many (depletion of the resource).

"People have heard that 'government is the problem' so often that many spontaneously go one step further to 'all politicians are crooks.' Both become justifications for political apathy."

In my view, the key to any reform is political change, although we need also to engage everything from our personal consumer habits, beliefs and values to institutional change in the global economy. Wherever we begin, change will inevitably involve the political process: legislation, taxes, subsidies and regulations are required to accomplish many of the things that must be done. A consumer boycott cannot go far enough, and corporations legally must serve their shareholders.

There are at least three great obstacles to political reform: vast private interests (meaning profits to gain in the here and now), technical (what to do is not obvious if we seek fundamental change and not just tinkering) and motivational (political cynicism is so pervasive as to discourage people from even looking to the political sphere for solutions). People have heard that "government is the problem" so often that many spontaneously go one step further to "all politicians are crooks." Both become justifications for political apathy. Yet what are the alternatives?

One dollar, one vote instead of elections and governments responsible to the people?

Democratic control over decision-making is itself a legacy of the 18th-century Enlightenment, achieved with years of struggle and sacrifice. "Sovereignty of the people" was subversive in regimes with divine-right kings. Universalism admitted everybody, regardless of race, religion and even (in time) gender, a radical notion when only the (male) nobility and great landowners had any say in political decisions.

Governments, of course, make mistakes with short-sighted legislation and tax policies. In Canada, we actually encourage wasteful energy use with subsidies for fossil fuel extraction and nuclear power. Agricultural policy favours poor environmental practices. None of these measures came out of nowhere, of course, but private corporations, local communities, unions, etc., demanded them and governments obliged.

The time frame for political decision-making is all wrong. Governments are accountable to voters every four or so years in typical democracies. But the decisions that need to be taken to stop environmental damage and safeguard our long-term future tend to have immediate costs that make the action unpopular, to put it mildly.

No Canadian or provincial government heeded the warnings of declining fish stocks, documented over decades of overfishing. When the 1982 Kirby Report called for substantial restructuring of the Atlantic fisheries, it was fought. The jobs (created by government subsidies) were needed. A government that made a drastic reversal in the long-term interest of future yields would likely be defeated and any measures already introduced would be reversed.

Governments cannot act (for long) against the wishes of their constituents. It's not that "government is the problem" but that solutions, especially drastic ones, have to have concerted public support or they will be undone. Governments must lead in finding solutions on our behalf, but we must look at changes in values and beliefs and how we run the economy, as well as political change.

Prof. Lynn McDonald is a University professor emerita in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology.

Facelift for Filters Could Improve Health, Safety

Researchers use protein-enhanced paper in effort to create advanced filters that actively remove contaminants, not just block them

BY ROBERT FIELDHOUSE
SPARK PROGRAM

NEW FILTERS being developed from protein-enhanced paper that can detect and capture harmful particles have a strong potential to improve Canadians' health and safety, says Prof. Chris Hall, Environmental Biology.

The specialized filters he and his collaborators are creating could be used to actively remove water con-

taminants, purify disease-causing antigens for medical research, prevent undesirable agents from entering emergency blood supplies, protect citizens from bioterrorists and filter air in cars.

"The real difficulty is getting whatever it is that binds to pathogens to bind to paper, too," says Hall.

Current filters rely mostly on small pores that block contaminants from passing through based on their size, he says. But now the goal is to

create advanced filters that will actively remove unwanted components in a variety of situations.

Most filters are based on cellulose, a carbohydrate that's the main component in paper. The new filters will feature special proteins that stick to cellulose. The proteins will have two parts: one called a cellulose binding domain (CBD) to bind cellulose, and the other an antibody to bind pathogens and other contaminants.

Hall says the protein's CBD will be borrowed from enzymes that normally bind to cellulose and degrade it. Then, using molecular biology tools, he and his team will create "fusion proteins" that replace the degrading component with an antibody that recognizes and fuses to harmful agents, anchoring them to the filter surface and preventing them from passing through the

paper's pores.

This type of filtering goes beyond just using size to exclude undesirable materials, says Hall. For example, a SARS-fighting antibody could be linked to paper through a CBD. This paper could then be used to supply health-care workers with SARS masks that prevent them from inhaling the virus by trapping it first.

He is investigating antibodies designed to capture and detect several bacteria species, including *E. coli* and *Pythium*. His first test will be to see whether his fusion proteins can be applied to water filters that specifically target these organisms that cause human or plant diseases.

This five-year project is still in its early stages, with preliminary results just beginning to flow in. By the project's end, Hall hopes it will be possible to print his fusion proteins onto paper to create the novel filters and

other similar products. He says paper is perfect for many applications because it's inexpensive, disposable and can be made sterile.

"It's absolutely amazing. Paper can be used to do just about anything. What we really want to do is build a platform for rapidly detecting pathogens by optimizing its use."

Others involved in this project are Prof. Mansel Griffiths, Food Science; Prof. Stephen Seah, Molecular and Cellular Biology; research associate Michael McLean and graduate students Greg Hussack, Melissa Bassorriello and Sarah Wood, Environmental Biology; and Roger MacKenzie, National Research Council.

This research is sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the SENTINEL Network and its industry partners.

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Awards Recognize Alumni Achievements

Continued from page 1

President's House and the Arboretum. They'll visit Alumni House, the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre and the Rutherford Conservatory and Alumni Gardens, and view construction and renovation projects at the new science complex and the Macdonald Institute Building. There will be entertainment at the Bullring, shopping at the University Bookstore and opportunities to use campus athletic facilities.

Alumni Weekend concludes June 25 with an ecumenical service at War Memorial Hall and a farewell breakfast at Creelman Hall.

Anyone interested in attending Alumni Weekend events will find details and registration forms at www.alumni.uoguelph.ca/news_weekend.

2006 U of G Alumni Awards

Alumnus of Honour

Hannam has become a pivotal figure in Canadian agriculture, specifically the soybean industry. He established First Line Seeds in 1982 and grew the company into one of Canada's largest soybean seed suppliers.

His vision and strong belief in research have helped to propel soybeans to their position as Ontario's largest field crop and to develop value-added soybean products. In 2001, he assisted with the launch of Soy 20/20, a program designed to match soybean research with market opportunities.

Students are best acquainted with Hannam through his creation of Project SOY (Soybean Opportunities for Youth), a contest that encourages students to develop innovative uses for soybeans. His family also made a \$1-million contribution to U of G that is being used to promote innovative medical, industrial and nutritive uses, as well as marketing strategies for Ontario soybeans.

Hannam is a member of the OAC International Advisory Council and has received the prestigious H.R. MacMillan Laureate in Agriculture, which is presented every five years to an individual who has made significant contributions to agriculture in Canada.

Most recently, he built the Ontario AgriCentre in Guelph to give new visibility to agriculture and offer a focal point for disparate commodity and professional agricultural groups dispersed across the province.

Alumni Volunteer Award

Bosch is a three-time chemistry graduate who completed his PhD while balancing the demands of his business career. He is chair of the Guelph Soap Co. Inc., a company he established and developed into a major player in the privately labelled soap-processing industry.

In 1987, Bosch established the Guelph Soap Co. Inc. Scholarship, an annual award of \$1,200 that recognizes a top chemistry student at Guelph. He has served as a volunteer director on the UGAA board and was an alumni senator. He also played a significant role in developing and promoting the University's recent fundraising campaign and was instrumental in funding and garnering support for the installation of the clock on Rozanski Hall.



Martin Bosch



Peter Hannam



Crystal Mackay

Bosch helped a team that submitted a successful application to the Canada Foundation for Innovation for a \$3.2-million grant used to found the Electrochemical Technology Centre in 2001. He was also the visionary behind the Historical Plaque Project on campus (see story on page 3) and continues to work with the College of Biological Science and the College of Physical and Engineering Science to raise funds for the science complex.

Alumni Medal of Achievement

Since graduating from the Ontario Agricultural College, Mackay has been an innovator in agricultural communications. She worked for the Ontario Farm Animal Council (OFAC) from 1993 to 1997.

As program co-ordinator, she worked to improve public awareness and understanding of Canada's agricultural sector and spent more than 100 days a year speaking with audiences across the province.

In 1997, she joined Ontario Pork as a communications specialist and started her own



Carlton Gyles

company, Crystal Clear Communications. One of her greatest professional accomplishments was the development of the "Speak Up" team concept, which trained pork farmers to be agricultural ambassadors and media spokespeople in Ontario.

She produced the first "Faces of Farming" calendar in 2001, featuring photographs of Ontario pork producers. In its second year, the calendar sold out in less than a month and was awarded "Best in Show" in the public relations category at the Canadian Agricultural Marketing Awards ceremony.

Mackay was also a key member of the team that developed Ontario Pork's award-winning "Farm to Fork" campaign that emphasized pork producers' commitment to the environment. Her continued dedication to advancing agricultural awareness brought her back to OFAC, where she is now executive director.

OVC Distinguished Alumnus

Since officially hanging up his lab coat last summer, Gyles has been wrapping up research, working with graduate students, and marshalling the resources needed to ensure that OVC is equipped to play an increasingly vital role in public health.

Gyles, who came to Canada from his native Jamaica in the late 1950s, has spent his entire career at U of G, where he successfully combined research with numerous administrative responsibilities as a department chair, associate director of the Canadian Research Institute for Food Safety, dean of graduate studies and interim dean of OVC.

He began studying *Escherichia coli* more than 35 years ago and was among the first to pinpoint how a toxin produced by *E. coli* — similar to the toxin produced by cholera bacteria — could cause illness in pigs. His work since then has focused generally on understanding how bacteria cause disease and especially on controlling the risk of contamination through food, water and human contact with animals.

Gyles is the co-editor of a textbook on bacterial pathogenesis and has been a major contributor to scholarly literature on *E. coli*. His basic research is widely recognized, and his contributions on the public health aspects of the bacteria have helped make Canada's food supply safer.

Last summer, he received the Roche Diagnostics/CSM Award, considered the most prestigious prize of the Canadian Society of Microbiologists. In September 2005, OVC held a special symposium to salute his career and recognize his contributions.

In retirement, Gyles is focusing on the creation of the Centre for Public Health and Zoonoses and planning for a new building to house the Animal Health Laboratory and the Department of Pathobiology.



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RICK BATES

Faculty member in the Department of Business, joined the University in 1980

Prof. Rick Bates loves smelling fresh country air and seeing the open road ahead of him. He bought his first motorcycle in high school, but it ended up in storage when he went off to university. A decade ago, after years of watching students ride their motorcycles to campus, he dusted off his helmet and hopped back on his bike.

Now he's out riding as much as possible. Last summer, he logged nearly 20,000 kilometres on his 2000 Honda Goldwing, including riding to conferences in Pittsburgh, Chicago and Prince Edward Island. In July, he and his wife will travel to Newfoundland on the bike.

"The length of time will depend on the weather," says Bates. "The nicer it is, the longer we'll spend out on the road. It's a great way to travel because you see more, relax more and take more time to stop."

Bates is also a longtime member of the Erin Agricultural Society and helps the organization put together its annual fall fair, which is held Thanksgiving weekend.

"It's a good community event and a good opportunity for people to return to where they grew up."

He's also been busy reviewing nomination letters for the Yellow Pages Group's "Make It Real" program, an initiative that recognizes and rewards small businesses that are dedicated to improving the communities they serve. Awards will be given out June 14 in 10 Canadian regions, including Guelph and Kitchener-Waterloo.



Rick Bates

mural sports, including soccer, baseball and Ultimate Frisbee. "It's a great way to spend time with friends and get active."

Fowler has a creative side as well and enjoys drawing and painting. Her favourite style is abstract, and many of her creations hang on the walls of her home.

"I actually have too many pieces of art right now," she says, adding that many works are given to family and friends.

Earlier this month, Fowler was an extra in the film *Four Aces*, a romantic comedy that's being filmed all over the city. She appeared in a scene that was shot on campus at Bob's Dogs.

"I'd never been involved in something like this before, and I thought it would be a lot of fun. The other extras and the cast and crew were fantastic, and I had a great time."

IRENE THOMPSON

Assistant director of residence life, U of G staff member since 1983

Much of Irene Thompson's spare time is spent helping others. In addition to serving as co-chair of U of G's United Way campaign, she's co-chair of the leadership committee for the City of Guelph's United Way campaign. She says her involvement is very rewarding and gives her an opportunity to learn about the city as well as the needs of its citizens.

Thompson also gives her time to those seeking advice to keep fit. As a personal fitness trainer, she helps clients with cardiovascular fitness, weight loss, strength and balance training and muscle development.

She herself keeps physically active by working out every day and playing slo-pitch in a local women's league. "It's a nice opportunity to get to know other women, have fun and co-operate as a team," she says.

In addition, Thompson is a member of Guelph Collegiate Vocational Institute's parents' council as a member of the group's communications committee. The council meets monthly and works to identify ways to encourage parents to get involved with their children's education and the school, she says.

Editor's note: If you would like to be featured in "After Hours" or would like to suggest someone for the column, contact Rebecca Kendall at Ext. 56039 or r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca.



Irene Thompson



Wheels in Motion

President Alastair Summerlee spent a day in a wheelchair June 5 to help raise awareness of the Wheels in Motion event slated for June 11 at U of G and the challenges faced by people living with spinal cord injuries and other physical disabilities. The Sunday event had people walking, biking, wheeling or running a 2.5-kilometre course on campus to raise money for spinal cord research. Nearly 200 people, including Summerlee, participated in or volunteered at this year's event, raising a record \$27,678.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENOALL

RECYCLING TIP OF THE MONTH

Make sure you flatten your cardboard and place it by a recycling container. Flattening the cardboard preserves space in the outdoor blue bins and also prevents indoor bins from overflowing too quickly.

U of G Recycles!



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MEAGHAN FOWLER

Master's student in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology

When Meghan Fowler leaves her experiments at the lab, she likes to test her athletic abilities. For the past six years, she's been active in intramural sports, and this year her inner-tube water polo team won the conference 'A' championship.

"It's not as strenuous as traditional water polo, and it's so much fun," says Fowler, adding that her team went undefeated all season. She also plays a variety of other intra-



Meaghan Fowler

Study Explores History of Health Food Stores

Society's growing concerns about health, desire to stay young and distrust of technology and mainstream medicine fuel health food craze

BY RACHELLE COOPER

HEALTH FOOD STORES, once thought of mostly as "hippie bastions," have gone mainstream, and health and organic food items now occupy entire aisles in grocery stores. Prof. Catherine Carstairs, History, says this is due to society's growing concerns about health, its desire to remain youthful and its distrust of technology and mainstream medicine.

"All of these factors have contributed to the growing health food craze," says Carstairs, who is tracing the history and trends of Canada's health food industry and recently conducted interviews with 30 leaders in the industry.

She notes that health food really started to take off in the 1960s. Interest in vegetarianism, the environmental movement and eastern spirituality accounts for some of this growth, she says, but Rachel Carson's 1962 book, *Silent Spring*, also played a role.

"The book drew attention to the health risks posed by pesticides and herbicides, and by the late 1960s, many people had become distrustful of medicine and science."

This change in people's attitudes resulted in a huge rise in the number of health food stores across the country, says Carstairs. Toronto went from having 13 such stores in 1957 to more than 100 by 1979.

Another wave of health food stores crested in the 1990s, and by 1999, Ottawa had created the Natural Health Products Directorate to regulate over-the-counter health products such as vitamins and minerals and herbal remedies.

"The Natural Health Products Directorate has added a lot of legitimacy to the industry because it allowed people to make health claims for products," says Carstairs.

In 2005, an Ipsos-Reid survey found that 71 per cent of Canadians regularly take natural health products. The definition of a "natural" product is becoming more complex,

and new products are attracting a different clientele, she says. After St. Louis Cardinal Mark McGwire hit 70 home runs in 1998 while taking Androstenedione, sales of the natural dietary supplement advertised to increase muscle mass and build training endurance skyrocketed.

Although body builders can now be found perusing the shelves at health food stores, industry leaders report that most of their customers are women and the elderly, says

Carstairs.

"What they stressed above all was that the people who came to them were in search of better health, were not finding answers in mainstream medicine and so were looking for alternatives."

It's only in the last couple of decades that people have begun turning to health food stores for more than just improving their health, says Carstairs. An examination of *Alive* magazine, a publication that

was launched in the 1970s and is still Canada's biggest health food magazine, and a Winnipeg-based magazine called *Healthful Living Digest* that was launched in the 1940s allowed her to pinpoint when health trends began.

"There's a real emphasis in *Alive*, especially from the 1980s onwards, on how to reverse aging and remain youthful, which is becoming an increasingly important aspect of the industry."

This is the last issue of *At Guelph* for the summer semester. The first issue of the fall semester will appear Sept. 13. The deadline to receive copy is Sept. 5.

Giving Voice to French Female Writers

U of G prof's research to chart how prize helped develop women's literary community in early 1900s

BY REBECCA KENDALL

WHEN AN UNKNOWN male writer named John-Antoine Nau won the 1903 Prix Goncourt, a newly founded French literary award, instead of better-known female writer Anna de Noailles, it set off a movement that slowly changed the face of France's literary world.

For centuries, female writers had been extremely limited in their ability to get their work published and weren't recognized by the literary establishment, says Prof. Margot Irvine, Languages and Literatures. After Nau's win, a small group of France's female writers decided change was drastically needed.

"It seemed pretty clear from the beginning that this award would never go to a woman," she says. "There were two really strong female candidates in 1903 and in 1904, and there were many misogynist remarks made about them and their books by the men on the jury."

So the women created the Prix Femina, a literary award that is open to both sexes and is today widely considered to be the second most prestigious French competition for writers. The award, which still has an exclusively female jury, is the focus of Irvine's research.

"The Prix Goncourt didn't go to a woman until 1944, so it seems they were right in their decision to initiate a new prize," says Irvine, who grew up in Kingston and was educated in French-language schools before attending the University of Toronto, where she earned a BA, MA and PhD in French and women's studies.

She joined U of G in 2004 and is cross-appointed to French and European studies. This winter she'll expand her portfolio by teaching a core course in women's studies.

"I'm really excited about it because for me, teaching is every bit as important as my research," says Irvine, who lives in Etobicoke with her husband and daughters, Thérèse, 9, and Charlotte, 5. "I've been given the opportunity to teach some really interesting courses here at Guelph."

Irvine plans to produce a book that delves into the history of the Prix Femina and how it changed the face of French literature and cultural politics. Although there are at least half a dozen books devoted to the Prix Goncourt, not one has been written about the Prix Femina.

"Very little has been written about the founding of the Prix Femina, and its centenary in 2004 went almost unnoticed," she says, noting that her book will also include information about the 28 women who participated in the jury from its inception to 1914. The book will take the form of a dictionary, and entries will be devoted to the first winners of the award, the newspapers that were associated with it and other key figures who supported it, opposed it or dismissed it outright.

"The unique history of the prize makes it an ideal case study about how the formation of a community affects women's access to cultural power," she says, adding that she wants to learn if participation helped women gain access to the literary institution and if the award served its mandate to create unity among female writers.

"Studying the creation of the Prix Femina will represent a significant contribution to our understanding of the development of women's literary community in France at the turn of the last century."

Irvine has been interested in the Prix Femina for the past three years,



Prof. Margot Irvine is delving into the history of the Prix Femina and how it changed the face of French literature and cultural politics.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

after discovering correspondence related to the prize while doing work in Paris on Jane Dieulafoy, a notable female travel writer who was a founding member of the Prix Femina jury.

For her PhD thesis, Irvine researched the writings of eight male-female couples who travelled from Europe to other continents in the 19th century and examined how

gender influenced the travel writing they produced. It wasn't considered socially acceptable for women to travel by themselves at the time, so travelling with one's husband or another male relative was one way to be able to leave home, she says. Sometimes the couples would produce collaborative travel accounts, and other times they'd write individual

accounts of the same journey.

"Interestingly, some of the male writers didn't acknowledge in their travel writing that their wives were travelling with them," says Irvine.

She adds that, although the men provided access to travel and sometimes used their contacts to find publication opportunities for their wives, the women also helped their spouses by reworking the text to make it more interesting and comprehensible to a general audience.

"These books helped to increase interest in the regions under study and often portrayed the male traveller in a favourable light as a heroic, intrepid traveller," says Irvine. "As there were no equivalent heroic roles for the women to adopt for themselves, they tended instead to depict themselves as dutiful wives, following their husbands to the ends of the earth, often hiding their own passion for travel."

This spring, Irvine organized a three-day conference held at the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences at York University for the Canadian Association for 19th-Century Francophone Studies. There she presented a paper called "Une académie de femmes?" which argued that the Prix Femina jury could be considered a women's academy. This month, she'll be speaking at a conference at the University of Surrey on the role that two women's newspapers played in the creation of the prize.

"I'm fascinated by the ways that women were able to write and to publish their work at a time when the literary establishment was dominated by men and was fairly hostile to them, especially if they tried to write about subjects like travel or science that weren't considered acceptable for women."

Dads Eager to Be Involved, Researchers Find

But many fathers feel isolated by mom-friendly policies, programs

BY RACHELLE COOPER

INSTEAD OF CELEBRATING the superficial greeting-card version of Father's Day this Sunday, Canadians should recognize the diverse experience of fathers and the positive ways fathering is evolving, says family relations professor Kerry Daly, director of the national Father Involvement Research Alliance (FIRA). "We can't talk about father involvement as a monolithic experience," says Daly. "Fathering occurs under many conditions and many family contexts, depending on factors such as age, ethnicity, marital status and sexual orientation."

After analyzing demographic trends, interviewing fathers from across Canada and reviewing myriad policies that affect father involvement, FIRA, a community/university research project involving 10 universities and more than 25 community partners, has uncovered the complex challenges facing fathers from different walks of life. FIRA's research focuses on issues faced by seven specific groups of fathers: separated/divorced, immigrant, young, aboriginal, gay, new fathers and fathers

of children with special needs.

The first set of results from the five-year, \$1-million research project shows that, regardless of background, dads are involved or want to be more involved in the lives of their children and are eager to discuss their experiences.

"What we're picking up is that there's a really strong desire from men to not only be involved but to also talk about their parenting experiences as something that's meaningful and important in their lives," says Daly. "We had an overwhelming response of dads who wanted to talk to us."

The fathers interviewed were keen to step out of traditional roles, but said they sometimes felt invisible or overlooked in the lives of their children, he says. "Fathers are well aware that mothering and parenting are used interchangeably and that services often focus only on mothers' needs and ignore fathers' needs."

Daly and his colleagues will identify ways to support father involvement and also hope to draw more attention to the ways dads are being excluded in policies and parenting programs.

"Fathers are affected either directly or indirectly in the way policies and institutional

practices perpetuate limited gender roles or fail to recognize the unique role of fathers," he says. "It's important for community services and workplaces to recognize that dads bring a different perspective to parenting and experience work-family pressures in their own way."

Fathers in many of the clusters said that, although their partners were likely to seek support from friends, families and community groups, they feel isolated by programs and policies that are often built on a model designed for mothers, says Daly. The researchers plan to explore different ways of supplying information and support to dads, such as creating parenting guides for immigrant fathers and videos for young fathers struggling to provide for a child while minimally employed.

Here are some of the findings from the seven research clusters:

- Indigenous fathers who were removed from their homes as children to attend residential schools have negative or no experiences of being fathered.
- Many immigrant and refugee fathers are at risk for stress factors, including social isolation, unemployment and trauma.

- Gay fathers face challenging issues related to "coming out" after having children, disclosure of sexual orientation to children and spouses, and entitlement to fatherhood.
- Separated and divorced fathers face legal, emotional and financial issues that affect their continued involvement, and want equal parenting responsibilities with support from courts and other institutions.
- New fathers face difficulties in transitioning into parenting and wish to support their partners and communicate with them about their life and relationship changes.
- Even though young fathers have little power in terms of having access to their children if the mother denies it, they make concrete efforts to be recognized as a valuable partner.
- Fathers of children with special needs have difficulty getting employer permission to attend clinics and have little downtime.

The project is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council and operates from U of G's Centre for Families, Work and Well-Being. For more information, visit the FIRA website at www.fira.uoguelph.ca.

All the Science a Teen Can Handle

U of G graduate launches science e-zine for Canadian teenagers

BY ANDREW VOWLES

AMY COOK was only a pre-teen when she asked her parents to buy her a microscope one year.

"I've been interested in science since I was young," says the U of G graduate, who is completing PhD studies in cancer biology at the University of Western Ontario. "I was always very inquisitive. I think it's very interesting to find out how things you see in daily life actually work and how you can explain something."

She never got the microscope, but she did hold on to that early love of science. And today Cook shares that interest in turn with teenaged readers of her fledgling web-based science magazine launched early this year.

Along with Mira Ray, a post-doc in the same breast cancer lab in London, she is now running CRAM Science, an e-zine intended to explain science to Canadian teens through an engaging mix of regular articles and other features.

Perceiving a gap in science education for this age group—too old for *Owl* and *Chickadee* magazines but not yet ready for *Discover* or *National Geographic*—they decided to chance their online venture. After a year of planning, they launched it in January at www.cramscience.ca.

"Nothing out there existed in

Canada that targeted all teens in general and in a manner that was relevant to their lives," says Cook.

She and Ray had originally thought about starting a conventional magazine, but their research convinced them they needed to cater to a web-savvy audience. "Teens are hard to market to, but they are marketable."

The site includes several regular features written by volunteers and edited by Cook and Ray. "Everyday Science" explains the science behind the news headlines and everything from hair gel and acne medication to plasma TVs and cell phones to Ecstasy and sexually transmitted diseases to CSI and "bling." News sections include articles about health, sports, arts and entertainment, and products found at home.

The e-zine includes a question-and-answer section called "Ask Dr. CRAM," in which volunteer writers respond to reader questions ("What causes that sound when I crack my knuckles?" "Is chocolate bad for dogs?" "What stars are in the constellation Hydra?").

In a section called "The Lab," readers can find ideas for do-it-yourself activities such as using a digital camera to photograph the night sky or learning how and why uncooked spaghetti breaks the way it does. And "School's Out" features science jobs

beld by recent graduates, from a pharmacist to a medical physicist.

Cook and Ray rely on about 100 volunteer writers from across the country, including journalism students and science graduate students and professors.

CRAM Science is a non-profit organization. Cook says they've applied for charitable status and hope to attract sponsors such as high-tech organizations to make the site more interactive and to further develop it as a national science resource. They also hope to be able to pay writers and post more articles more frequently.

The organization's board of directors consists of Cook and Ray as well as two professors—one from Western's Richard Ivey School of Business and one from the University of Toronto—and the high school science learning co-ordinator for the London Thames Valley District School Board.

The site was developed by Resolution Interactive Media, a London web design firm. (The site's name is an anagram of the first letters of its founders' names, although they point out that it also evokes the occasional exam preparation method.)

Both Cook and Ray have been involved in science outreach activities, including running the Let's Talk Science program that connects univer-

sity graduate students with elementary and high school students. They've also volunteered at a London children's museum. And Cook has run science activities with kids on a morning TV show aired in London.

This month, Cook will begin a new job as a program developer at BC Science World in Vancouver. She plans to continue her work with CRAM Science after hours.

She began graduate studies in 2001 thinking she'd become a researcher, but she changed direction after attending a conference held about 18 months ago by Let's Talk Science.

"I was so engaged. This is where I'm supposed to be."

Earlier at Guelph, she'd been hooked on molecular biology during a lecture on cancer biology given by Dawn Larson in the former Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics.

"I was in microbiology and ended up switching," says Cook. "Cancer biology was something I wanted to learn more about."

She adds that she recalls meeting enthusiastic science teachers even earlier while in high school.

"They encouraged me to explore"—something she hopes to inspire today in youthful readers of CRAM Science.

The following appointments were recently announced at U of G:

- Tara Abraham, assistant professor, Department of History
- Daniel Adler, assistant professor, School of Fine Art and Music
- Madhur Anand, associate professor, Department of Environmental Biology
- Patricia Bell-Rogers, lab technician, Animal Health Laboratory
- Petra Berenbrink, associate professor, Computing and Information Science
- Erin Campagnolo, records program assistant, Alumni Affairs and Development
- Nita Chhiner, assistant professor, School of Hospitality and Tourism Management
- Susan Chuang, assistant professor, Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition
- Helen Donaldson, animal-care clerk, Animal-Care Services
- Mark Fortier, professor and director of the School of English and Theatre Studies
- Dan Frook, carpenter, Structural Shop
- Tim Gaw, grounds machinery operator, Grounds Department
- Sky Gilbert, assistant professor, School of English and Theatre Studies
- Jamie Gruman, assistant professor, School of Hospitality and Tourism Management
- Shelley Hunt, assistant professor, Department of Environmental Biology
- Sally Hickson, assistant professor, School of Fine Art and Music
- Sean Kelly, assistant professor, School of Environmental Design and Rural Development
- Helen Kocmarek, technical supervisor, Animal Health Laboratory
- Lisa Kohlmeier, clinic aide, Student Health Services
- Honghong Li, lab technician, Laboratory Services
- Allison MacKay, lab research technician, Department of Biomedical Sciences
- Michelle Marentette, distance education production co-ordinator, Office of Open Learning
- Robin Milhausen, assistant professor, Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition
- Monica Noble, receptionist/clerk, Student Health Services
- Linda Parker, professor, Department of Psychology
- Alan Rawkins, web designer, Communications and Public Affairs
- Paul Rowntree, professor, Department of Chemistry
- Byron Sheldrick, associate professor and chair of the Department of Political Science
- Dave Stuckless, sanitation equipment operator, Grounds Department
- Rene Van Acker, professor and chair of the Department of Plant Agriculture
- Sandra Walters, lab technician, Laboratory Services
- Ronald Ward, manager, evaluation and analysis, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

appointments



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Building Bridges of Hope in Trinidad

Guelph-Humber career services co-ordinator leads annual volunteer mission to home for orphans and abandoned children

BY REBECCA KENDALL

IN A SMALL VILLAGE in Trinidad, a woman left her young daughter with a neighbour, saying she was off to do some errands. She never returned. The neighbour, who was unable to care for the girl, approached the girl's uncle and asked him to take her in. He refused, says Alison McGeorge, career services co-ordinator at the University of Guelph-Humber.

"The uncle told the neighbour, with the girl standing at her side, that he didn't want her — that nobody wanted her — and if the neighbour couldn't care for her, she could throw the girl in the dumpster down the street."

The girl, now six, was welcomed into the Bridge of Hope children's home in Trinidad's James Smart Village. McGeorge, who spends a week volunteering at the home each year, last saw the girl in March.

"She's beautiful and full of life," says McGeorge. "She's doing really well at the home. She's attending Grade 3 and is surrounded by people who love her."

Forty children live at the Bridge of Hope, and each has a story of loss, she says, noting that although some of the children are orphans, most have been abandoned.

"One of the unique things about the home is that it's not an institutionalized setting. It's very much like a family home environment. There's a house mom and dad and the staff of aunts. The kids get along wonderfully, and they're very supportive of one another."

Bridge of Hope was founded by a Trinidadian entrepreneur who worked in the United States before being drawn back to Trinidad to open the facility, says McGeorge. Since then, he's made great strides in garnering international support for the orphanage, she says. This includes a number of full scholarships for the children to attend American universities.

Since 2004, she and her husband, Callum, have chaperoned a group of Grade 8 students from Chartwell Baptist Church in Oakville on a week-long volunteer mission to Bridge of Hope. The church has been sending members of its congregation to the home for the past 10 years. Before going to Trinidad, Alison



Alison McGeorge poses with some of the children who live at the Bridge of Hope home in Trinidad, where she volunteers every year. PHOTO BY CALLUM MCGEORGE

McGeorge leads a six-week preparation course for the students to learn about Trinidadian culture and what will be expected of them during the trip. She also helps with fundraising efforts.

"Callum and I go because we feel strongly about the impact this experience can have on the students we travel with, as well as the children and staff at the home," she says. "The kids from Oakville get new insight into the difficulties that some kids have. They're left with a new

appreciation for what they have and the things they take for granted, like having parents to care for them."

While there, they're involved in the daily activities of the home and do repairs on the facilities. They've also helped build a community garden.

"It's a children's home, but it does a lot to serve the entire community, including offering a walk-in medical clinic, a small library, a nurs-

ery school and computer labs and classes," says Alison McGeorge.

The volunteers' community involvement has also included delivering food to those in need and helping seniors with household work.

"I have a real passion for service-learning," she says. "The kids we take are so keen to help out and do as much as they can at every turn."

When they returned from Trinidad this year, one girl approached teams from her soccer league and asked them to donate their gently used jerseys and shoes to the children at Bridge of Hope.

McGeorge has been active in her community and abroad since she was 14. Her first taste of volunteerism was preparing and serving meals at the Scott Mission in Toronto.

"It was a significant experience because I had never been exposed to homelessness and poverty in that way before. At first I felt quite uncomfortable and didn't really know what to say to these people or how to act. One of my jobs was to go around and serve the drinks, and my nerves were put at ease very quickly as I realized that these were just people going through a hard time. I had a nice time interacting with them. I think this experience taught me that it's not hard to make a difference."

This summer, two teens from Bridge of Hope will be spending five weeks in Ontario. McGeorge helped Chartwell Baptist Church raise money to fly the pair from Trinidad and pay for a month-long leadership training program at Ontario Pioneer Camp in Port Sidney. There they'll learn skills that will be valuable for them and their communities when they return to James Smart Village, she says.

During their final week in Ontario, the teens will stay at her home, and she and Callum will take them to popular attractions in Toronto and Niagara Falls. She also plans to take them to the University of Guelph-Humber.

"It'll be a good opportunity to show them a university, and hopefully it will motivate them to work hard in school and have the chance to further their education. We hope that, through this experience, the kids will realize that there is lots of opportunity out there, and if they work hard, they can do and be anything they want."



Environmental Home Assessment Study



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Summer to Bear Fruits of Campus Construction

New parking lot planned for cold-storage site

A NUMBER of construction projects have been on the go over the past few years, and the fruits of that labour will soon be seen as a number of buildings, including Phase 2A of the science complex, a new clinical research facility, the Chemical Management Centre and the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario (BIO), begin operations. This summer will also see the completion of finishing touches on the MacKinnon extension and landscaping. In addition, the former post-harvest facility will be demolished, and a number of upgrades to existing buildings are under way.

Construction continues on Phase 2 of the science complex. Phase 2A has been completed and is getting signage and furniture in preparation for a July move-in. It will be the new home of the CPES dean's office, the CBS dean's office, Department of Chemistry administrative offices and CBS teaching labs. Phase 2B will be finished in the summer of 2007, and the fencing along Gordon Street will remain intact until that time.

Temporary fencing has been erected on the northwest corner of the University Centre loop and South Ring Road in preparation for demolition of the former cold-storage building. A new parking lot with 54 vehicle spaces plus motorcycle parking will be built in its place. Many of the functions of the cold-storage building will move to the Bovey Building, where renovations are under way to create new labs for post-harvest research.

CR2, a new clinical research facility linked to the Central Animal Facility, has recently been completed, and move-in has already begun. The

Chemical Management Centre, located just west of the BIO, will be ready for occupancy in early July. Environmental Health and Safety will use it as a secure and central repository for management of U of G's controlled product wastes.

Construction of the BIO, an interdisciplinary research institute dedicated to improving the understanding of biodiversity on all scales, is scheduled to be completed at the end of July, and faculty will be able to move in starting in August.

In addition, a number of enhancement projects are planned around campus. New roofs are currently being installed on the Bullring and the MacKinnon Building, and the Crop Science Building will get a new roof in August. Also in August, the third-floor classrooms in the MacKinnon Building will be renovated with new carpeting, paint, window coverings, lighting and audiovisual teaching aids.

Work is currently under way at the Rutherford Conservatory Gardens to create a door leading from the conservatory to the water garden. The project is expected to be completed this month.

Improvements to Lambton Hall are also well under way and will be completed in August. The work includes new finishes in the lobby, the restructuring of the mailbox and desk area, window replacements and upgrades to the bathrooms and kitchens. In addition, single rooms will be created from the double rooms that have been a feature of the residence for more than 40 years.

Other summer upgrades include aesthetic enhancements to the Prairie Hall dining room and installation of new boards in the red arena.



Focus on Bicycle Safety

Const. Liz Bouchard, left, offers safety information to a cyclist on Gordon Street May 30 during the U of G Campus Community Police's Bicycle SPACE (Safety, Prevention, Awareness, Courtesy and Education) Program.

PHOTO BY RACHELLE COOPER

Orlando Creators Earn Award for Outstanding Achievement

Continued from page 1

women's writing between 1700 and 2000 to the books that use Edinburgh as a setting," she says.

Whereas most search engines look for keywords without paying attention to content, *Orlando* allows people to conduct searches that can reflect the ambiguity of the English language, says Brown.

"The English language is slippery, and we wanted to create a search tool

that could be more sensitive as a result of judgments made by the researchers. We have structured *Orlando* so that you can search for or link to material in context-sensitive ways."

The site includes entries on the lives and careers of about 1,000 writers and allows students or researchers to quickly look at the discussions of a writer's work and life side by side on their screen. Users can also create customized chronologies, drawing on more than 30,000 events, or search more than 20,000 bibliographical references.

The co-editors will be writing three volumes to complement the website materials. Alberta English professor Isobel Grundy is covering the early period to about 1830. Brown is responsible for the material from 1820 to 1890, and Alberta English professor and project director Patricia Clements is working on the 20th-century materials.

Because it can be confusing for students to know which online resources are appropriate to use in academic searches, Brown says she and her co-editors thought it was impor-

tant to have their work go through the same peer-review process that any book would. *Orlando* is published by Cambridge University Press, one of the world's largest academic publishers.

When the project first began in 1995, the Internet was barely getting off the ground, says Brown. "The ground's been moving under our feet while developing it."

Over the past decade, nearly 100 people have been involved in creating *Orlando*. Fifty-four students at Alberta and 28 at Guelph have worked on the project.

"Some people now in faculty positions were trained on *Orlando*, and some have continued working in humanities computing," she says.

Brown, Clements and Grundy recently received the 2006 Society for Digital Humanities Award for *Orlando* in the category of outstanding achievement for computing in the arts and humanities.

Orlando is on the web at <http://orlando.cambridge.org>. Members of the University can access it free through a link on the U of G Library website.

Building Audit Planned

Electronic security access on the agenda

U OF G HAS ENGAGED a security management-consulting firm to audit selected buildings on campus for the purpose of developing an electronic security access strategy.

"The buildings that are the focus of the audit were selected to be representative of the varied uses and functions that our university buildings accommodate," says Nancy Sullivan, vice-president (finance and administration).

"The objective is to receive recommendations from the consultants about technologically advanced electronic access solutions that will, over time, accommodate the needs of all building users and support personnel, including campus police, fire prevention officers and facility caretakers, guided by an institutional

strategy for improved physical security at progressive levels of controlled access, with long-term cost-effectiveness."

Robin Begin, director of Campus Community Police and Fire Prevention Services, notes that the new access strategy will help ensure that personal safety and asset protection are priorities.

The project is being overseen and managed by an advisory committee headed by Prof. Alan Shepard, associate vice-president (academic). The buildings to be audited include Animal Science and Nutrition, MacKinnon and MacNaughton, the McLaughlin Library, the Athletics Centre, the OVC complex, selected student residence buildings and the University Centre.

Facility management personnel

have been contacted so that audits can be arranged at convenient times and building stakeholders can be interviewed about their needs, says Sullivan. The consultants will be wearing identification badges.

Based on responses to a request for proposals, Securac Physical Risk Practice Group of Brampton was awarded the contract to develop the strategy, she says. Securac has prior experience with other clients in the post-secondary education sector. The consultants will be working throughout the summer.

A final report on the electronic security access strategy will be delivered to the advisory committee before the end of September. Geoff Byford of the Office of Research is co-ordinating the project for the committee.

For information about paid advertising in *At Guelph*, contact Scott Anderson at 827-9169 or theandersondifference@rogers.com.

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR RENT

Two-bedroom townhouse in Marksam/Speedvale area, 1½ baths, family room, central air, hardwood and ceramic floors, appliances, yard with deck, laundry, parking, close to bus route, no pets, available Sept. 1, \$1,000 a month plus utilities, references required, Linda, 669-4235 or ldlittle@gmail.com.

One or two bedrooms in three-bedroom townhouse, close to campus, mall and bus, laundry, central air, access to pool, parking for one vehicle, non-smokers, no pets, available immediately or Sept. 1, \$380 a month per room or \$650 for both rooms, Jenn, 820-5021 after 5 p.m. or jenn_morrow@hotmail.com.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in southwest Paris, France, short-term rental; furnished two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, weekly or monthly, Nicole, 836-6745 or fnmoll@rogers.com.

Cottage in Southampton, sleeps six, gas fireplace, Melody, 836-6264 or m.wren@exec.uoguelph.ca.

FOR SALE

Toddler bed, Little Tykes Teddy Bear, light blue; boy's Supercycle FS1, blue and silver, 35-inch wheel base, 16-inch tires, reflectors, like new; VHS movies, about 30 child- and family-friendly titles, Shari, Ext. 56648 or s.dorr@exec.uoguelph.ca.

1995 Saturn Sport Coupe 2, classic model, automatic, tinted glass, power steering, tilt wheel, cruise, air, new tires, fog lights, low mileage, leave message at 821-1583 or jdrenters@hrs.uoguelph.ca.

Computer system with tower, monitor, keyboard/mouse, Windows 98 and Office 97 loaded on hard drive; second computer system also available, Ext. 53633 or dtocek@uoguelph.ca.

Gas stove, excellent condition; twin bed with mattress and dresser, light-coloured hardwood maple; twin bed with mattress, dark wood, ysavoret@uoguelph.ca.

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conservation lands, living/dining room with cathedral ceiling, built-in appliances and work island in kitchen, four baths, new roof and windows, finished basement; three-bedroom bungalow in south end, large living room, eat-in kitchen, finished basement with three-piece bath, 763-6534.

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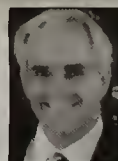
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EVENTS

ARBORETUM

The Arboretum is offering workshops on fern identification and propagation July 6 and dragonflies and damselflies July 12. Both run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and cost \$50. Registration and payment are due June 22 and June 28, respectively. Call Ext. 52358.

Naturalist Aleta Karstad is offering two workshops on nature journaling Aug. 15 from 9 a.m. to noon and Aug. 17 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more details, call Ext. 52358.

Coming up in the fall semester are all-day workshops on hawks Sept. 8 and growing native woody plants from seed Sept. 19 or 21. All sessions run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information, call Ext. 52358 or visit www.uoguelph.ca/arboretum.

The Arboretum Auxiliary holds its annual fundraising plant sale Sept. 9 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the R.J. Hilton Centre on College Avenue East. For more details or to buy a catalogue, call Ext. 52113.

ART CENTRE

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre volunteers present Gardenscapes

2006, a self-guided tour of 11 Guelph gardens, June 25 from noon to 5:30 p.m. Included on this year's tour are the gardens of U of G faculty Gordon Lange, Clive Southey and Glen Lumis. The tour runs rain or shine. Admission is \$12. For more information, call 837-0010 or visit www.msac.ca.

NOTICES

The U of G Child-Care and Learning Centre and the U of G Fire Department are offering clinics on car seat safety June 19 and 21 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the centre's parking lot. To register, call Ext. 52682.

The Professional Staff Association's annual general meeting is June 15 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in MacNaughton 113.

The Central Animal Facility/Animal Care Services hosts its 14th annual open house June 15 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Central Animal Facility. Tickets for a barbecue lunch are \$5.

SEMINAR

The Department of Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics and the New Zealand High Commission host a seminar and panel discussion

on "Farming the Land, Not the Mailbox: The New Zealand Perspective on Farm Incomes and Managing Change" June 19 at 2 p.m. in OVC 1714. Guest speaker is Alistair Polson, New Zealand agricultural trade envoy. Other participants include Bob Friesen of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and Liam McCreery of the Canadian Agri-Food Trade Alliance. For more details, visit <http://fare.uoguelph.ca/events>.

TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services presents "Teaching Dossier Basics for Faculty" July 5 and "Teaching Dossier Refresher for Faculty" July 12. Register at www.tss.uoguelph.ca.

Training and support sessions for instructors using WebCT continue June 27 for beginners and June 21 for experienced users. Additional workshops are planned for July and August. Register at www.tss.uoguelph.ca.

Professional voice coach Heather Hill leads the two-part workshop "Clear Communication for the Canadian Classroom" July 19 and 26. It is designed for those whose first language is not English. Register at www.tss.uoguelph.ca.

THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Megan Hazell, Integrative Biology, is June 19 at 9 a.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "Behavioural Responses of Elk to the Spatial Distribution of Resources." The adviser is Prof. John Fryxell.

The final examination of Matthew Moles, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Integrative Biology, is June 20 at 9 a.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "Life History Variation and Ecological Divergence of Walleye (*Sander vitreus*)." The advisers are Prof. Beren Robinson and Thomas Johnston.

The final examination of Anthony Thomas, a PhD candidate in the rural studies program, is July 4 at 9 a.m. in Landscape Architecture 140. The thesis is "European Union Banana Market Policy Changes: Implications for Sustainable Rural Development and Sustainability of Rural Communities in the Windward Islands." The adviser is Prof. Rakhal Sarker.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Guelph and District Multicultural Festival runs June 16 to 18 at Riverside Park.

Wellington County Museum and Archives hosts its annual Herb and Garden Fair July 8 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine.

The Guelph Creative Arts Association holds its 46th annual "Painting on the Green" June 24 and 25 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Delhi Recreation Centre.

Guelph Youth Musical Theatre presents *Les Misérables* June 16 and 17 at 7 p.m. at Trinity United Church. Advance tickets are available at the church, The Bookshelf and What's in the Pantry.

The Guelph Arts Council's historical walking tours continue throughout the summer. This month, tours will focus on "Altar and Hearth" June 18 and "Brooklyn and the College Hill" June 25. Tours begin at 2 p.m. For details, call 837-0010.

The 27th Elora Festival runs July 14 to Aug. 6. For information, call 519-846-0331 or go online to www.elorafestival.com. To order tickets, call 1-800-265-8977.

LaPointe-Fisher Nursing Home at 271 Metcalfe St. is holding a yard sale June 17 from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. Proceeds go to the Residents' Council fund.

Smoke and Mirrors

U of G physicist trains gimlet eye on story of 'long-lost' anamorphic image

BY ANDREW VOWLES

IT'S A TALE of a deliberately ambiguous painting that hides a story, but even the tale gets distorted in the telling. So says retired physics professor Jim Hunt, who will visit England this summer to share what he's learned from his most recent application of long-neglected math and physics wizardry to a once-fashionable art form.

In London, he will speak about a painting of St. Anthony of Padua by an anonymous 16th-century artist, a work that Hunt calls a classic, if clumsily rendered, example of anamorphic art.

An anamorphic image is one whose deformed appearance becomes normal only when viewed from an unconventional angle or with the aid of a curved mirror. Think of the elongated images painted on bicycle lanes that appear normal from the viewpoint of an approaching cyclist or motorist.

Hunt has made the study of anamorphs into something of a retirement project connected to his longtime interests in light and optics. He has examined historical examples of this art form, created his own samples, worked out the underlying math and physics, and even completed part of an ambitious translation of an early French text on the topic.

His most recent project began when a European researcher asked him to investigate an anonymous painting of St. Anthony of Padua. The researcher sent him a digital version of the image scanned from a recent newspaper story

about the painting and invited him to analyze the science behind the art.

Never mind the deformed image: Hunt was equally intrigued by apparent distortions in the British newspaper account itself, which hung on a lost-and-found tale that he says turned out to be apocryphal.

According to the newspaper article, the painting — a 33- by 10-inch oil on wood — had been shown in 1936 at New York's Museum of Modern Art along with Salvador Dali's *Bather*. The article described how the St. Anthony of Padua image had apparently vanished after that show and was "found" by chance only last year in an art collection belonging to the late sculptor Jacques Lipchitz.

Smoke and mirrors, says Hunt. Anyone looking for the painting's whereabouts could have found the Lipchitz reference in an authoritative text called *Anamorphic Art*. And contrary to a suggestion in the newspaper article that the painting was done in the 18th century, he says the book by French art historian Jurgis Baltrušaitis pegs its creation to 1535.

This spring, using some mathematical sleight-of-hand, Hunt worked out how the painting's particular trompe-l'œil effect was achieved. What he describes as "a bad Hieronymus Bosch" — a bridge, a stretch of water, disconnected items — morphed into two figures and a collection of symbols associated with St. Anthony of Padua.

He incorporated his image into a home-made viewing device, using an extensible wooden arm with a pinhole. Squint through

the hole from the extreme left side and you see the 12th-century Franciscan priest kneeling on a prayer rug, his neck clasped by the Christ Child. Other items in the picture include a cross, a book that is probably a Bible and a lily.

Apart from the image itself, something else soon became clear to Hunt. "This is not a great painting." His calculations revealed that the unknown artist broke a cardinal rule by using more than one perspective horizon.

Still a mystery to the physicist is why the artist would have chosen to paint the anamorphic picture at all.

For centuries, artists have used anamorphic paintings not just to play with visual perspective but also to manipulate meaning. Some images were intended to reveal their message only to the initiated, such as a painting of Charles I that might have been owned by closet Royalists during the Cromwell era.

In Hans Holbein's *The Ambassadors*, an odd-looking smear in the foreground resolves into a human skull when viewed from the side — the artist's intentionally ironic comment on human vanity.

Hunt says the form was particularly popular with Renaissance-era painters interested in mysticism. In a scenario that he concedes contains echoes of *Da Vinci Code*-style conspiracy theories, he says a long-ago order of friars was believed to follow obscure rituals using anamorphic devices to display images of saints and other holy figures.

He learned that snippet from a book on anamorphic images published in the mid-

1600s by Jean Francois Nicéron. It's taken Hunt five years and a well-thumbed French-English dictionary to translate about two-thirds of the volume, called *La Perspective Curieuse*, into English.

"I'm learning 17th-century French," he says. "It's a foolhardy project."

He guesses that the book's intended readers were mathematicians and artists upon whom Nicéron wished to impress the importance of paying attention to mathematical rules. (In an amusing parallel with that perspective-deficient artist, Hunt says Nicéron was at best a mediocre mathematician: the physicist had to clean up some of the math in his transformation algorithms.)

Since retiring, Hunt has re-derived the equations used to make these images, working with departmental colleague Prof. Bernie Nickel and graduate student Christian Gigault. A paper they co-wrote six years ago pointed out that the mathematical basis for this art form had been neglected for centuries.

Hunt will speak about his work this summer at the Bridges Conference, an annual event that brings together mathematicians, artists, musicians and scientists. While in London, he plans to visit the gallery where the St. Anthony image has been displayed since last month. "It would be a shame to do all the work and not see the real thing," he says.

Samples of Hunt's recent work with mirrors and anamorphic images are currently exhibited in the foyer of the MacNaughton Building.

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Come on Home for the Weekend

Homecoming kicks off with annual Hall of Fame dinner

FUN, FOOD, FOOTBALL and spending time with family and friends are all on the roster for Homecoming 2006, to be held Sept. 22 and 23.

"Homecoming fosters U of G spirit and support, and it's important to welcome not only the University community and alumni but the entire city of Guelph as well," says Jason Moreton, interim director of alumni affairs. "This promises to be an unforgettable event, and people won't want to miss it."

Homecoming begins Friday night with the Gryphon Club Hall of Fame dinner at 6:30 p.m. at Peter Clark Hall. This year's inductees are Ron Bogart, football; Zoltan Hunyada, wrestling; Carl Jackson, football, wrestling and skiing; the late Jack Rathby, football; and the men's golf team that won the 1992 OUAA championship. For tickets, contact Janis Macpherson at Ext. 56133 or jmacpher@uoguelph.ca.

Reunions are also planned for the football teams of 1958, 1959 and 1996, the OAC class of '86 and Phi Beta Phi.

A fundraising acroathon runs Saturday from 9 to 11:30 a.m. on Johnston Green. Registration begins at 8 a.m., and proceeds from the event will go to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guelph and Breaststrokes, the University's breast cancer dragon boat team.

An alumni fun run sponsored by the Human Kinetics and Human Biology Alumni Association also gets under way at 9 a.m. To register, send e-mail to atessari@uoguelph.ca.

The Glory Bowl, featuring alumni Gryphon football players, kicks off at 10 a.m. at Alumni Stadium.

The annual Homecoming barbecue and a "KidZone," featuring face painting, inflatable slides, a kiddie ferris wheel, a craft area and a hug

Continued on page 14



Stream of Consciousness

Prof. Andrea Bradford, Engineering, says if we want clean drinking water and healthy aquatic ecosystems, we'll need to better manage our water resources. See story on page 8.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

New CPES Dean Named

Award-winning researcher to begin five-year term in January

ANTHONY VANNELLI, a professor of electrical and computer engineering and associate dean of research and external partnerships at the University of Waterloo, has been named dean of the College of Physical and Engineering Science. He begins a five-year term in January.

"Tony has incredible enthusiasm and infectious energy and brings with him a wealth of expertise as an administrator, teacher and researcher," says provost and vice-president (academic) Maureen Mancuso, who chaired the search committee. "He has strengths in engineering, mathematics and computer science, and this unique background underpins his approach to teaching and research. It's also in keeping with Guelph's educational philosophy that emphasizes the sharing of ideas. We are delighted that he is joining U of G."

An award-winning researcher known internationally for his work, Vannelli is the author of more than 100 journal articles and conference publications. His current research involves using advanced large-scale optimization approaches to solve integrated circuit layout problems.

A graduate of Concordia University and Waterloo, he did a post-doctoral stint at the IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center in New



Anthony Vannelli

York before joining the University of Toronto, where he held a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council University Research Fellowship from 1984 to 1987. He joined Waterloo in 1987 and chaired the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering from 1998 to 2004.

Vannelli has also been recognized for his teaching, which he has continued to do while holding administrative positions.

The new dean says he's looking forward to coming to U of G and joining CPES.

"Guelph continues to move to a bright future by integrating newer disciplines and strategic directions

into its existing well-established strengths," he says. "I strongly believe that the physical sciences, mathematics, computing and information sciences and engineering disciplines housed in CPES are well-positioned to develop into exciting opportunities for the college and University."

Pending Vannelli's arrival, Prof. Boh Balabura, Chemistry, is serving as interim CPES dean.

CSAHS Dean Reappointed

Prof. Alan Joseph has been reappointed to a second five-year term as dean of the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences (CSAHS). The longest-serving dean at U of G, he was first appointed in July 2000 after chairing the Department of Geography for eight years.

Joseph, who joined the University in 1978, was part of the team that brought together the College of Family and Consumer Studies and the College of Social Science to create CSAHS in 1998 and was integral to the transition process, says Mancuso. He also helped lead the planning and development of the new College of Management and Economics.

"He is simply a first-rate dean, with a very collegial leadership style, coupled with creativity, enthusiasm and deep commitment to the college and its students, faculty and alumni," she says. "He is deeply admired and respected by his peers."

Duke Prof to Share Teaching Expertise

Distinguished visitor a 'teacher of teachers'

UOF G's 2006 Distinguished Visiting Teaching Professor is Cathy Davidson, a professor at Duke University and an award-winning author. She will visit campus Sept. 25 to 27, meeting and talking with faculty, staff and students about the art of teaching.

Davidson is interim director of the John Hope Franklin Humanities Institute at Duke and holds three endowed chairs. From 1999 until July 2006, she served as Duke's vice-provost for interdisciplinary studies, the first such position in the United States. In that role, she had administrative responsibility for more than 60 research programs in Duke's nine academic and professional schools.

"We're delighted to have Cathy coming to campus to share her insight and knowledge with our faculty and staff," says Prof. Alan Shepard, associate vice-president (academic), who oversees the Distinguished Visiting Teaching Professor program. "In addition to being an excellent professor, she is an en-

thusiastic 'teacher of teachers,' who emphasizes the importance of developing lifelong learning for university faculty and staff."

While at Guelph, Davidson will deliver a public lecture on "Thinking at the Interface" Sept. 25 at 2 p.m. in Room 100 of Massey Hall. Earlier that day, she'll chat with U of G staff from the library, Learning Commons and Teaching Support Services about learning in higher education.

During her visit, she will also meet with instructors of the University's unique first-year learning seminars program, speak to teaching assistants and facilitate a discussion with learning and writing peers and student learning group leaders. In addition, she will be available by appointment Sept. 27 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. for anyone interested in talking to her about teaching. To schedule a meeting, call Julia Beswick at Ext. 58902.

Davidson is co-founder of the

Continued on page 14

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Five More CRCs for U of G

New Canada Research Chairs bring Guelph's total to 30

U OF G ADDED five more faculty members to its growing cohort of Canada Research Chairs (CRCs) this summer, bringing the total to 30.

"The new recipients are representative of the exceptional creative capacity that reaches across the institution, and all of them should feel very proud of what they have accomplished," says Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research).

Ottawa funds two types of chairs through the CRC program — Tier 1 and Tier 2. Tier 1 chairs are international leaders in their field and receive \$200,000 a year for seven years. Tier 2 chairs have the potential to become world leaders in their field and receive \$100,000 a year for five years.

In July, Prof. John Dutcher, Physics, was named a Tier 1 chair in soft matter physics. He co-ordinates Guelph's interdisciplinary Centre for Food and Soft Materials and is a

theme leader in Guelph's Advanced Foods and Materials Network. The development and use of soft materials such as polymers and proteins are expected to revolutionize many sectors of Canadian industry, including aerospace, pharmaceuticals, microelectronics and packaging.

A Tier 1 chair was also awarded to Prof. Linda Parker, who joined the Department of Psychology this summer. She is investigating the psychopharmacology and neurobiology of learning, emotion, sickness and addiction.

She hopes the research will lead to better understanding of basic neural processes involved in the modulation of the pharmacological properties of drugs, with specific applications to controlling nausea and vomiting caused by cancer chemotherapy.

Prof. Milena Corredig, Food Science, received a Tier 2 chair in food nanostructures. Her research fo-

cuses on incorporating more functional, healthier ingredients in food products. The stability, structure, good taste and quality of food products are a determining factor in dietary choices, she says.

Prof. Hermann Eberl, Mathematics and Statistics, was named a Tier 2 chair in applied mathematics, with a focus on applications in life science and engineering. He will be developing and analyzing mathematical models of biological and physical systems, and will apply them to study various problems and questions by computer simulations.

Prof. Madhur Anand recently joined U of G as a Tier 2 chair in the Department of Environmental Biology. She will study global ecological change and forest biodiversity. Her overall goal is to improve understanding of biodiversity structure and dynamics on a global scale, and to use this understanding to predict responses to accelerated change.

CFI Invests \$1.3 Million in Research at Guelph

Eight diverse projects receive federal support

U OF G WILL SOON BE home to some research "firsts" in Ontario and Canada, thanks to more than \$1.3 million in funding announced this summer by the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI). The support will help build Canada's first one-micron nuclear microprobe at Guelph, along with Ontario's first single-unit micro-neurography facility and new labs for studying nutraceutical encapsulation and tissue, cell and protein dynamics.

The national agency is also funding U of G projects that will advance knowledge in pest management, cardiovascular health and disease, physics, and food packaging and design.

Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research), says one of the most striking aspects of this latest CFI support is the diversity of research it's funding at U of G.

The \$1.3 million was awarded to eight research projects through CFI's Leaders Opportunity Fund. Among the recipients is Prof. Amanda Wright, Human Health and Nutritional Sciences, who was awarded \$126,045 to set up a nutraceutical laboratory.

"I'm thrilled," says Wright. "It will mean so much, not only for my

budding program but also for our food-nutrition collaborations in general. There's so much to learn about how to encapsulate bioactive compounds for successful incorporation into food products and delivery to the body. The CFI infrastructure will allow my group to contribute to this understanding and related technology development."

Prof. Peter Sikkema, Plant Agriculture, received \$380,282 for equipment that will support an extensive research program for sustainable pest management in field and horticultural crops at Ridgetown Campus.

Back at the main campus, \$145,795 was awarded to physics professor Diane de Kerckhove to buy a complex lens system for the microprobe she's building in the basement of the MacNaughton Building. She'll use the facility to study semiconductors and fabricate microscopic light-emitting devices.

Other Guelph CFI Leaders Opportunity Fund recipients are:

- Prof. Leah Bent, Human Health and Nutritional Sciences, \$87,000 to establish a microneurography facility, where she'll study sensory contributions to balance, posture

and walking, work that will especially benefit the country's elderly population.

- Profs. Doug Fudge and Todd Gillis, Integrative Biology, \$252,319 to establish a world-class tissue, cell and protein dynamics laboratory that will advance research in human health, biotechnology, nanotechnology and materials science.

- Prof. Paul Garrett, Physics, \$149,364 for technology to improve the high-efficiency gamma-ray spectrometer used for beta-decay experiments. Among other things, the new equipment will improve studies of neutron halos in light-mass systems.

- Prof. Ron Johnson, Biomedical Sciences, \$126,828 for equipment to advance investigations of altered venous function in chronic heart failure and to support long-term research into cardiovascular health and disease.

- Prof. Loong-Tak Lim, Food Science, \$84,418 to apply and develop innovative technologies to improve the performance of food packaging and to advance fundamental knowledge of how food interacts with packaging.

at GUELPH

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UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

SENATE, B OF G SEEK NOMINEES FOR SELECTION, REVIEW COMMITTEES

Nominations are sought by Sept. 15 at noon for members of a selection committee to choose a new chancellor and for members of a presidential review committee. Lincoln Alexander, who became U of G's chancellor in 1991 and has served an unprecedented five terms, will be named chancellor emeritus in October. President Alastair Summerlee's first term ends June 30, 2008, and, as is appropriate at this point in his term, Board of Governors has requested a review committee be struck. For information about the nomination process, contact the University Secretariat on Level 4 of the University Centre, Ext. 56761 or 56758, or visit www.uoguelph.ca/secretariat/index.shtml.

UW VOLUNTEERS GEAR UP

Campus volunteers for the United Way are gearing up for a Sept. 28 kickoff to the 2006 U of G campaign. Volunteer canvassers will launch the annual fundraising drive and announce the University target at a noon-hour barbecue on Branson Plaza. Look for the traditional deal on a hot dog and pop, say United Way co-chairs Fred Ramprasad, retired associate dean of the B.Sc. program; Irene Thompson, associate director of residence life; and graduate student Barb Caswell of the Centre for Genetic Improvement of Livestock.

NOMINATIONS FOR LINCOLN ALEXANDER MEDAL SOUGHT

Senate is calling for nominations from students, staff, faculty and alumni for the 2007 Lincoln Alexander Medal of Distinguished Service. The award honours an individual who has played a pivotal role in the functioning of the institution and who has influenced the quality of academic life at the University. Active members of faculty, staff and students are not eligible. The nomination deadline is Dec. 31. For more information, call Ext. 56760 or 56758 or visit the website www.uoguelph.ca/secretariat/senate/awards.shtml.

OCTOBER WORKSHOP TO FOCUS ON COPYRIGHT LAW

A workshop designed to educate faculty and instructional staff about copyright law and the use of copyrighted materials in teaching and development of course materials is slated for Oct. 3 at 11:30 a.m. in Room 384 of the McLaughlin Library. Registration is required at www.tss.uoguelph.ca. For more information, call Mary Naim at Ext. 53571 or send e-mail to mnaim@uoguelph.ca.

THEY SET A DANCE RECORD

U of G students and staff broke one Guinness world record and set a new one during Orientation Week. A total of 1,790 University members beat the old record for the largest number of people participating in a synchronized dance to the song *Locomotion* by Little Eva for five minutes. They also set a new record for most simultaneous high-fives.

Exemplary Staff Honoured at Community Breakfast

Five employees lauded for excellence, dedication



President Alastair Summerlee, far right, poses with this year's winners of the President's Awards for Exemplary Staff Service. From left are Danny Martin, Laurie Schnarr, Susan Morrison, Richard Gorrie and Greg Humphreys.

PHOTO BY GRANT W. MARTIN PHOTOGRAPHY

FIVE U OF G EMPLOYEES were named recipients of the President's Awards for Exemplary Staff Service at the community breakfast Sept. 7. President Alastair Summerlee presented the honours during the annual event, which drew more than 1,000 people.

The awards recognize staff members who have made a lasting impression on their colleagues by consistently demonstrating a commitment to excellence and exceeding the expectations of their normal job responsibilities.

This year's recipients are:

- Greg Humphreys, a technician and laboratory instructor in the Department of Integrative Biology. He was acknowledged by his nominators for excellence in teaching courses in invertebrate zoology and his outstanding commitment to his students.
- Richard Gorrie, manager of courseware support services in Teaching Support Services. He was nominated for displaying integrity, leadership, innovation and dedication and for developing WebCT from four course offerings in 1999 to more than 1,000

current options.

- Danny Martin, a carpet and upholstery installer in Physical Resources. He was recognized for 38 years of hard work and for taking on any challenge that comes his way. He is also appreciated for being a kind and thoughtful friend to his co-workers.
- Susan Morrison, executive officer for the College of Arts. She was lauded by nominators for her unwavering commitment to the College of Arts, her willingness to share her knowledge and wisdom and for years of putting others before herself.
- Laurie Schnarr, assistant director of Student Life and Counselling Services. She was recognized for displaying strong leadership skills and for creating an interesting and engaging work environment.

Recipients are chosen from nominations submitted by colleagues and selected by a committee. This year, 33 staff members were nominated.

"We are truly fortunate to have such a remarkable group of people on staff," said Summerlee, "and each nominee has without a doubt been an inspiration to those around them."

I thank each of these people for bringing something special to the lives of their colleagues and for making our campus a great place to work."

The recipients of three awards that honour community volunteerism and dedication were also recognized at the breakfast.

Irene Thompson, associate director of residence life, received the University of Guelph Alumni Association Employee Volunteer Award for the time and energy she devotes to volunteer work.

Jennifer Kingwell, a secretary in the Department of Plant Agriculture, received the Steelworkers Local 4120 Susanne Sprowl Community Service Award, which honours contributions to the external community through community spirit and volunteer work.

The Excellence in Undergraduate Academic Advising Medallion was presented to Prof. Valerie Allen of the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management for outstanding contributions to academic advising.

In addition, employees who are marking their 25th year at U of G this year were honoured at the breakfast.

Speaker Series to Celebrate 25 Years of Co-operative Education at U of G

UOF G's co-operative education program marks its 25th anniversary this year. To celebrate the milestone and to recognize co-op's philosophy of ongoing experiential learning, Co-operative Education and Career Services is joining with Alumni Affairs and Development to bring a monthly speaker series to campus.

It kicks off Sept. 20 with 1992 B.Comm. graduate Kim Parlee, a reporter with Report on Business Television, presenting "Education That Works," a look at the benefits of learning through hands-on work experiences.

The talk begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Cutten Club, with refreshments to follow. Business casual dress is pre-

ferred. If you wish to attend, RSVP by Sept. 15 to Melissa Koschmidar at Ext. 52119 or mkoschmi@uoguelph.ca.

The speaker series will continue Oct. 4 with "Off the Beaten Path" and Nov. 2 with "Networking and Etiquette Cocktail." For more information, visit the website www.coop.uoguelph.ca.

people

NOVEL WINS TORONTO PRIZE

Prof. Dionne Brand, English and Theatre Studies, has won the Toronto Book Award for her novel *What We All Long For*. Established by Toronto City Council in 1974, the award honours authors of books of literary or artistic merit that are evocative of Toronto. Brand's book follows a circle of young people of many different backgrounds as they try to make a life in the city.

SILVER MEDAL FOR RITTER

Prof. Len Ritter, Environmental Biology, received a silver medal from the United Nations Joint World Health Organization and Food and Agricultural Organization Expert Committee on Food Additives at a ceremony in Rome in June. The medals are awarded to long-serving members of the committee. Ritter has served since 1992.

CHANCELLOR HONOURED

The College of Management and Economics and the Centre for Studies in Leadership presented their inaugural Outstanding Leadership Award to chancellor Lincoln Alexander this summer and announced it will be an annual honour bearing his name.

OAC TEAM EARNS KUDOS

Prof. Wayne Caldwell, PhD candidate Jennifer Ball and M.Sc. candidate Alicia Evans of the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development received the 2006 Canadian Institute of Planners Award for Planning Excellence in the rural/small town category at the World Planners Congress. They were recognized for their project on "Conflict Resolution in Rural Ontario: Strategies for Responding to the Environmental, Economic and Social Impacts of Agriculture."

FOOD SCIENTIST NOMINATED

Food science research associate and adjunct professor Massimo Marcone is a nominee in TVO's 2007 "Best Lecturer" competition. Semifinalists will be announced this fall.

STUDENT TALK IS TOPS

Chris Murray, a graduate student working with Prof. John Dutcher in the Department of Physics, captured first place in the best student talk competition at the Canadian Association of Physicists Congress. His talk was titled "Comparison of Thermal and Chemical Treatments of Ultrathin Chitosan Films."

CROWLEY TO SERVE ON SELECTION COMMITTEE

Prof. Terry Crowley, chair of the Department of History, has been invited to serve as a member of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council's selection committee for the Bora Laskin and Thérèse F. Casgrain fellowships.

RETIREMENT PARTY SET

A retirement party will be held Sept. 27 at 4 p.m. for Stephanie Wilson, a staff member in the School of Engineering, to honour her 16 years of service at U of G. For information, call Karen Gordon at Ext. 52435 or Prof. Val Davidson at Ext. 54367.



Prof. Roberto Poma and neurology technician Jennifer Collins are finding new information about diagnosing and treating epilepsy in dogs that they hope can be applied to humans with the condition.

PHOTO BY KYLE RODRIGUEZ

Working to Treat Epilepsy

CFI funding will allow OVC prof to obtain state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment

BY ANDREW VOWLES

U OF G veterinary scientist hopes his newly funded study of epilepsy in dogs will help doctors diagnose and treat the disorder in humans.

Prof. Roberto Poma, Clinical Studies, has received more than \$80,000 from the Canada Foundation for Innovation for comparative studies of human and canine epilepsy. The grant — to be matched by provincial and private funding — will allow him to obtain diagnostic equipment not found in any other vet school in Canada.

"The idea is to create a comparative epilepsy program to use the dog as an animal model to study epilepsy," says Poma, whose new funding was announced this spring.

As in people, epileptic seizures occur spontaneously in dogs. Seizures may be general or focused and are often triggered by unknown causes. (Studies using rodents require researchers to induce seizures.)

He will use his new equipment to study electrical patterns in the brains

of dogs to learn how and where seizures occur. He hopes to pinpoint differences among breeds, perhaps analogous to the roughly 20 forms of the disorder that afflict humans.

"It's possible that some canine epilepsy is exactly the same as we see in humans," he says.

Working with neuroscientists at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children and at the University of Montreal — and at universities in the United States and Finland — Poma will also provide blood samples to help hunt down genetic markers for epilepsy.

As the most common canine neurological disorder, epilepsy affects two to five per cent of dogs. It's particularly common in such breeds as German shepherds, border collies and cocker spaniels.

Poma hopes to help veterinary clinicians in diagnosis and treatment. (That includes his wife, Becky Valentine, a University of Saskatchewan graduate who completed an internship at Guelph and now works at an emergency vet clinic in Toronto.)

The new equipment will include two electroencephalography units, one stationary and the second to be

worn by a dog at home. Both instruments will come with a video camera to capture both brain activity and physical symptoms. Poma also plans to use magnetic resonance imaging to get a more detailed picture of the disorder.

With another new device, he will test a possible alternative treatment for dogs, using a hand-held coil to deliver magnetic impulses to the brain. He hopes to use transcranial magnetic stimulation to raise the seizure threshold, thus preventing seizures from occurring.

About 0.6 per cent of Canadians have epilepsy, for which there is no cure. The disorder can be treated with surgery or drugs, but medications are often unreliable, says Poma, who joined the faculty of OVC in 2004. He had spent three years at U of G as a staff veterinarian after completing his D.V.Sc. in neurology in 2001. He earned a DVM in his native Italy in 1995.

Explaining his "passion" for neurology, he says: "The brain is a fascinating component and structure of the human body that we don't know much about."

Students Welcome Higher Profile for B.Comm. in CME

'We're finally getting the recognition we deserve'

BY RACHELLE COOPER

U OF G OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED its seventh college in May, and B.Comm. students then adopted the College of Management and Economics (CME) affiliation, but enthusiasm has been building with the recent arrival of the first class, says Dian Chaaban, a fourth-year B.Comm. student and president of the College of Management and Economics Students' Association.

"It's a big deal — we're really excited about it," says Chaaban. "We're finally getting the recognition we deserve as a business school."

Before the creation of CME, the B.Comm. program was offered through the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences (CSAHS) and the Ontario Agricultural College.

With 2,600 students and eight different majors, U of G's B.Comm. program is among the country's largest business programs, but it's been a bit of a secret because it hasn't had much of a profile, says CME dean Chris McKenna.

"The creation of the new college helps with recruitment and with the sense of identity students have while they're here," he says, "and I think it also helps with employment prospects."

Chaaban agrees. "Even though the classes aren't changing, the new college of management label helps give us more credit for the work we're doing."

With U of G's strength in commerce, special MBA programs and the new MA in leadership, CME will help develop the University's profile in management and leadership programs, says McKenna.

"The hope is that CME will be a much better mechanism for moving management and commerce programs forward. We plan on making the best use of our resources to improve student experiences."

Traditional business schools are self-sufficient, tend to be isolated

from the rest of their campus and have a reputation for being very aggressive, he says.

"That just wouldn't work here, so we see this moving forward in a highly collaborative way, as all the colleges behave at U of G."

CME incorporates the Department of Economics, the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, the Department of Marketing and Consumer Studies, and the new Department of Business, as well as some contributions from the Department of Psychology, the Department of Political Science and the Department of Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics.

The departments of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, Geography, Political Science, Psychology and Sociology and Anthropology remain in CSAHS, which has moved on quickly from the creation of CME, says CSAHS dean Alun Joseph.

"We're in the middle of a very constructive and rewarding revisioning process that is bringing into focus a wide array of exciting opportunities for the college."

CME faculty will continue to contribute to interdisciplinary programs and projects, says Prof. John Livernois, chair of the Department of Economics.

"Administratively, we're going to be housed in the new college, but economics is a social science, and many of us do social science research and will continue to collaborate with faculty in the other colleges."

The strong social science background gives B.Comm. students at Guelph an advantage over those at other universities, says McKenna.

"It's a broader commerce program than you find at other universities. There's a delicate line to tread between making sure students acquire the core business competencies and giving them some breadth of experience."

That breadth is one reason Guelph's B.Comm. enrolment has risen 88 per cent over the past nine years, he says. Another is the fact that students like the direct entry into the major.

"At other schools, you're admitted to the B.Comm., then don't actually get to choose your major until the end of the year, so you might not get into the major you wanted."

Adds Chaaban: "Here, you're in the college from day one and can identify with the people in your major right away."

Because B.Comm. students are currently scattered across campus, McKenna says CME is hoping to find a donor to help fund a building dedicated to the college.

Students, staff and faculty will have an opportunity to recognize their new college and meet the newly formed CME board of advisers at a celebration Oct. 25.

Seed Money Available to Sprout New Ideas

Environmental Science Research Initiative calls for applications for second annual round of seed funding

GOT AN IDEA for an environmental research project but need money to help develop a full funding proposal?

Researchers from across the U of G campus can apply for the second annual round of seed funding available under the Environmental Science Research Initiative (ESRI).

This program will provide \$8,500 each to three cross-campus groups of researchers looking to develop full-blown research proposals to tackle an environmental issue or problem.

Last year's inaugural program provided funding to investigators interested in community energy planning, environmental impacts of animal production and ecosystem health.

Prof. Joe Ackerman, associate dean of the Faculty of Environmental Sciences (FES) and chair of the ESRI committee, expects to field at least 12 proposals this year.

For each research theme, the funding will allow a working group to identify pertinent campus resources, bring together participants

and develop an external funding proposal. It will also pay for the cost of organizing a campus workshop or event about the project this year.

Projects are funded by FES and the Office of Research.

The ESRI committee — consisting of Ackerman; Prof. Anthony Clarke, acting associate vice-president (research and international relations); and associate deans of research (or their representatives) from all seven colleges — will judge this year's proposals based on such criteria as innovativeness, societal

relevance, interdisciplinary scope and links among natural, physical and social sciences and the humanities.

"Most environmental problems have natural, social and physical science components," says Ackerman, "and because it's about people, you've got the humanities involved."

The deadline for applications is Sept. 15. Competition results will be announced in early October. For more information, call Ext. 54800 or visit the website www.envsci.uoguelph.ca/research.htm.

Double-Double, But Hold the Rust

History prof's interest in tropical crops leads to study of coffee and its relationship with coffee rust, a destructive fungal disease

BY REBECCA KENDALL

WHEN PROF. Stuart McCook, History, is in the middle of a grocery store, he is captivated by the products of global exchange and commerce that surround him. From the bananas that top our morning breakfast cereal to the chocolate, sugar, tea and coffee that have become regular parts of our diet, tropical crops are all around us, he says. The tropical products we consume are at the core of the research that consumes him.

"Being in a supermarket is almost a magical experience as I think about standing in the middle of a web that touches every part of the world — a web that is shaped by political, environmental and economic relationships," says McCook, who arrived at U of G in 2003 and holds a BA from the University of Toronto, an MS from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y., and an MA and PhD from Princeton.

"I think it's important as a historian to remind people how strange it is that we consume the products of so many plants from halfway around the world, yet very few from our own backyards. It's a good idea to be aware that what we consume comes from somewhere and is grown by someone. These things are not born on supermarket shelves."

McCook is intrigued by topics related to the environmental history of tropical commodities and the societies that produce them. Although it took him 28 years to become a coffee drinker, much of his time is now spent poring over literature and research related to the popular beverage. That's because his latest undertaking is a 150-year history of coffee and its relationship with coffee rust, a fungal disease that has plagued coffee plants in many areas of the world and has had dramatic effects on national economies.

This year, his work has taken him to Costa Rica, Guatemala, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom and Venezuela, the country where in



Prof. Stuart McCook was a late starter when it came to drinking coffee, but the historian's interest in the beverage goes back 150 years.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

1993 he started to drink coffee, learned to speak Spanish and met his wife, Alicia.

Coffee rust is commonly found in the regions where coffee plants are native, namely southwest Ethiopia and northern Kenya, says McCook. A single tiny rust pustule on a coffee tree leaf can produce more than 100,000 spores, and a single leaf can contain hundreds of pustules. The pustules cause damage to the leaf and, in severe cases, can cause the leaves to fall off and compromise the health of the entire tree and the livelihood of coffee growers.

"The disease is a huge stress on

the trees, and even if they're alive, they're very sick. Over the course of successive outbreaks, production starts to collapse. In some cases, it could be 100 per cent."

McCook, who has studied other tropical crop epidemics, including sugar cane mosaic disease in Puerto Rico and Cuba and the impact of witches' broom disease in the cacao plantations of Ecuador and Brazil, says coffee rust is at the root of the destruction of many coffee plantations. Coffee rust co-evolved with coffee plants and was never a problem in the wild, he says, but it started to become a serious problem soon

after coffee became a major global commodity.

In the wild, coffee rust was kept in check by the biological diversity of the forests, the genetic resistance of the coffee plants, the climate and the parasites that attacked the rust fungus, says McCook, who notes that coffee consumption in pre-colonial Africa did little to alter the relationship between the plant and the disease because most coffee was harvested from wild plants.

"Tropical crop epidemics have become frequent, widespread and devastating since the early 19th century. These epidemics were not simply 'natural' events. They were also the accidental result of large-scale transformations in rural environments during this period."

Although there are nearly 100 species of coffee plants, the main commercial species is arabica, which grows in the cool, dry mountain environments of southwestern Ethiopia and northern Kenya.

The popularity of coffee drinking began to skyrocket in the Islamic world and Europe in the 1500s, and this led to the increase in coffee cultivation in new locales, says McCook. The first coffee rust epidemic broke out in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) at the same time that European colonies were expanding. Imperialism brought an influx of travellers and more transportation and shipping. People began to have more disposable income and could now afford products such as coffee and bananas. These factors, along with the invention of the Wardian case, a portable terrarium-like unit used to ship the difficult-to-transport coffee plants around the world, led to the increase in coffee rust, he says.

"Imperial expansion provoked epidemics — human, animal and plant — because it accelerated the spread of pathogens and it altered colonial environments in ways that favoured epidemics. With respect to coffee rust, British activity in the Arabian Sea accelerated the direct movement of goods and people and

— by extension — people and pathogens among eastern Africa, India and Ceylon. British settlers in Ceylon and southern India created the ecological conditions that allowed coffee rust to flourish."

One of the first countries to see an influx of coffee plantations was Ceylon. "In the 1840s and 1850s, Ceylon was sort of like the wild west," he says. "British settlers were coming in and clearing land and planting coffee on a very large scale. Coffee went from being an intercropped plant to a monoculture. This made it highly productive, but vulnerable to disease."

When coffee rust first reached the tiny island nation in 1869, nearly 400,000 acres of land were invested in coffee trees and coffee production, and the island nation was exporting some 45 million kilograms of coffee a year. Twenty years later, production was down by 95 per cent. By the mid-1920s, the disease had become globally widespread and decimated coffee operations in a number of countries, including Indonesia, Madagascar, Fiji, South Africa and the Philippines. The Philippines, which had been the world's fourth-largest exporter of coffee in 1889, the year rust was first detected there, had dropped its coffee exports from 16 millions pounds to virtually nothing by 1892.

Efforts to combat coffee rust and its chances of destroying modern coffee plantations have increased over the past few decades. Millions of dollars have gone into developing new varieties of rust-resistant hybrid coffee plants, modifying planting methods and developing chemical interventions as ways to control the spread of the fungus without compromising the taste or quality of the coffee that's produced. These efforts are ongoing and have met with mixed response, says McCook, who notes that no one has found a coffee that's resistant to the rust and still meets the highest quality in terms of taste and marketability. "It's a trade-off."

Kick the Caffeine, Not the Coffee

'Decaffeinated coffee provides the best of both worlds — it gives you the benefits of coffee without the health concerns of caffeine'

BY KATIE CHEESMOND
SPARK PROGRAM

COFFEE IS A MORNING "must" for many, but new research suggests we should fill our cups with decaffeinated java for better health.

Prof. Terry Graham of the Department of Human Health and Nutritional Sciences says caffeine, a component of coffee, reduces insulin's effectiveness in humans. But he does acknowledge that coffee has a number of benefits, most notably its antioxidant properties. So he has a suggestion: go decaf.

"Decaffeinated coffee provides the best of both worlds," says Graham. "It gives you the benefits of coffee without the health concerns of caffeine."

Reduced insulin effectiveness is a worrying

finding for those who already have compromised insulin systems, such as obese people and those diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes. Recently, there's been a dramatic rise in the number of consumable products with high caffeine levels. Some energy drinks, for example, contain up to 80 milligrams of caffeine per eight ounces. Some brands of caffeinated water contain 100 mg ("lite" variety) or 200 mg ("extreme") per 16-ounce bottle. Compare that with the average cup of coffee, which has 65 to 135 mg of caffeine, depending on strength and method of brewing.

Health Canada suggests that the general population of healthy adults consume no more than 400 to 450 mg of caffeine per day, the equivalent of about three cups of coffee. The problem with energy drinks is that many people don't realize how much caffeine they're

consuming, Graham says.

He notes that the effects of consuming caffeine in the morning compound as the day goes on. His research found that caffeinated coffee consumed at breakfast had drastic effects on insulin levels produced after lunch. The elevated insulin level caused by breakfast lingered, not returning to the person's normal resting level before the second meal was consumed. This effect was found in all subjects, but was more prolific in those exhibiting insulin resistance.

"The most surprising results of all were the great increases in insulin levels that were seen after the second meal was consumed," says Graham. "The results were more dramatic than we had expected."

Caffeinated coffee is not the only exotic component of consumer diets that is worri-

some, he adds. An extract similar to caffeine from the South American guarana bean is making its way into consumer products and growing in popularity because of unproven claims that it can aid in weight loss. Guarana beans contain about three times more caffeine than coffee beans do, says Graham, and the extract is being used in a variety of beverages. Although many of these products are currently limited to the U.S. market, some are making their way into Canada, he says, and consumers should be aware of their effects.

Collaborators in this project include Prof. Lindsay Robinson and graduate students Danielle Battaram, Lesley Moisey and Sita Kacker of the Department of Human Health and Nutritional Sciences. Funding was provided by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council.

Human Performance in More Ways Than One

Nutrition researcher turns improv skills into class act on campus

BY REBECCA KENDALL

WHETHER SHE'S in the classroom or the lab, on stage performing improv or climbing the CN Tower to raise money for charity, Prof. Andrea Buchholz, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, doesn't believe in doing things halfway.

In the lab, Buchholz currently dedicates her time to studying the relationship between visceral fat — the fat found deep in the abdomen — and risk factors for diabetes and heart disease. Her goal is to collect information that will help in developing diet and activity programs to extend and improve the lives of people with spinal cord injuries.

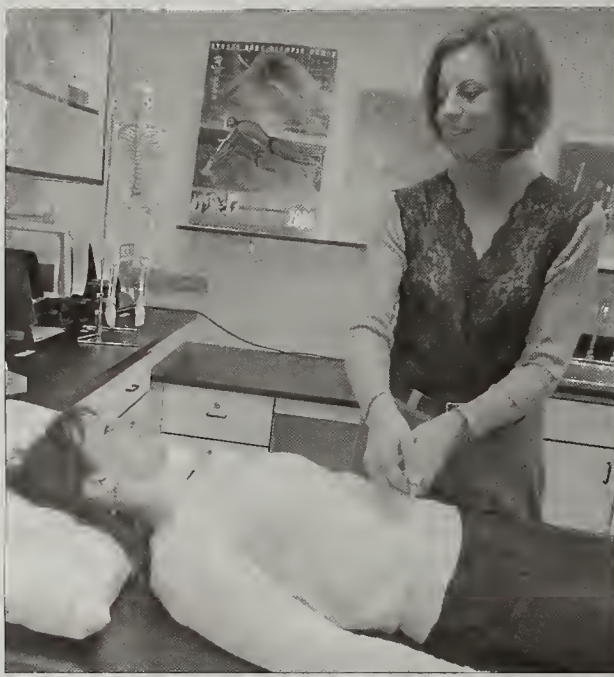
An estimated 40,000 Canadians are living with spinal cord injuries, a figure that continues to climb by more than 1,000 each year. These individuals are up to four times more likely to develop Type 2 diabetes than able-bodied people are. They also have an increased risk of coronary heart disease and suffer from higher rates of obesity.

"Spinal cord injury nutrition has received little attention," says Buchholz, who joined Guelph in 2004. "Most of the research is on nerve regeneration, but while we're working to help people walk again, there are many other things causing chronic health problems. Many people with spinal cord injuries get heart disease and diabetes, and we need to balt that or at least catch it in time to treat it."

In addition to this study, she's involved in a larger-scale project at McMaster University to determine what level of physical activity is needed to reduce body fat, blood fats and other metabolic risk factors for disease.

Buchholz's desire to improve the lives of people living with spinal cord injuries doesn't stop at conducting research. In June, she participated in U of G's Wheels in Motion, an initiative launched by the Rick Hansen Foundation to raise money for and awareness of those living with spinal cord injuries.

She has also raised funds and awareness for other causes, including the United Way and the World Wildlife Fund. To date, she's climbed the CN tower 13 times to raise funds for these organizations, and that number will



Prof. Andrea Buchholz measures the waist circumference of spinal cord injury research participant Cyndy McLean, director of U of G's Health and Performance Centre. This information is used to help determine lifestyle interventions that can reduce the risk of obesity-related conditions in people recovering from spinal cord injuries.

PHOTO BY KYLE RODRIGUEZ

be nudged one spot higher in October when she climbs the world's tallest free-standing structure once again.

In 2008, Buchholz will tackle a new study that looks at nutrition and heart disease risk in a different population — baby boomers. The study will be the first conducted in her new human body composition and energy metabolism lab, which, when completed, will be the only facility in Ontario capable of measuring fat mass and fat-free mass and energy expenditure in a "one-stop shopping" fashion.

"The lab will also have the capability of doing diet analysis and taking, processing and storing biological samples for analysis of metabolic risk factors," she says. "This facility will allow me to evaluate the effects of exercise, diet and supplement interventions designed to modify body fat, muscle mass and bone mineral mass. This, in turn, can help reduce the risk of chronic disease and improve human health and performance."

Human health has interested Buchholz since Grade 9. Inspired by a family studies

teacher to pursue a career in nutrition, she says her interest in the topic has never wavered.

"The impact that good nutrition can have on long-term health is enormous. Nutrition is the only science I know of that involves so many other disciplines. Physiology, psychology, anatomy, behavioural sciences, biochemistry and genetics all affect, or are affected by, nutrition. The field has tremendous appeal to people with a broad range of interests, and because of that, it attracts people from all different backgrounds with different perspectives."

Buchholz's own interest in the field has had a dramatic spinoff she never envisioned when she was choosing nutrition as a career. While doing her PhD at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, she was tapped to play the role of "Tuffluc the Caterpillar" in a weekly production of *Tails*, a play written and performed for the hospital's young patients.

"The play taught them that, even if they looked different from other kids — if they didn't have hair, if they were missing a limb or were sick — they were still good people and still loved," she says.

She later metamorphosed from a caterpillar and spread her wings at Toronto's Second City, where she participated in weekly improvisational workshops before moving to the United States to do post-doctoral work at the Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville and at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Being on stage was something Buchholz missed while living in the States, so last November she joined Waterloo's Theatre on the Edge, an improv troupe that performs Thursday evenings, holds weekly workshops and is regularly booked to entertain groups across the province.

"What I like about improv is the spontaneity and unpredictability," she says. "It's a complete release, and it completely flies in the face of everything I know as an academic. Here, my work is very planned, structured and organized, and I have to let all of that go when I perform. I like the contrast. It's absolutely a passion of mine."

In fact, she's so serious about improv that she travelled to Canmore, Alta., this summer to take part in "Improv in the Mountains," an intensive two-week training program taught by Keith Johnstone, an internationally recognized authority on improv. She was one of only 10 participants and learned a variety of new techniques, characters, accents and workshop games.

Buchholz says she also brings her stage skills into the classroom.

"For me, lecturing is a distinct form of theatre. It's as much theatrical as it is content and knowledge translation. There's a lot of gesticulating and projecting my voice, and I walk around the room and up and down the aisle. There's also a certain degree of improv in teaching because you're dealing with humans. Sometimes you get beckled, sometimes your AV equipment fails, and you have to be able to think on your feet."

She adds that humour is an important lecturing tool, particularly in her clinical nutrition course, where a lot of time is spent talking about sickness and death.

"Sometimes I need to lighten the mood and offer a different perspective while being highly respectful of the disease conditions we're talking about. It can be a very heavy course if I don't try to lighten it up and inject a bit of humour."

Buchholz will be performing at Theatre on the Edge Sept. 14 at 8 p.m. at the Waterloo Community Arts Centre, 25 Regina St. S. Doors open at 7:45 p.m., and tickets are \$5.

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A Perfect Fit

BY REBECCA KENDALL

AS YOU WATCH U of G fitness centre co-ordinator Lynne Skilton-Hayes lead cardio, spinning and boxing classes at the Athletics Centre, it's hard to imagine she wasn't always the picture of health she is today. But 15 years ago, two separate injuries left the then high school track-and-field athlete with a broken ankle and broken ribs and unable to exercise. She quickly gained 50 pounds, and the epileptic seizures that had been part of her life since age 15 became much more frequent.

"The difference within six months was phenomenal," says Skilton-Hayes, who is now nationally and internationally accredited as a fitness professional. "I was rapidly gaining weight, and my epilepsy was out of control."

In an effort to regain control, she vowed to make exercise a part of her daily routine. It was a move that not only resulted in increased energy and weight loss, but also gave her professional direction, passion and the desire to see others meet their physical potential, she says. In addition, it reduced the symptoms of epilepsy, which were often triggered by fatigue and stress.

"I'm at a point now where I take no medication for it at all," she says. "I've seen what exercise can do for people. It can really improve your quality of life, and that's why I love this industry so much."

Skilton-Hayes, who earned a B.Sc. from Guelph in 1994 and returned to campus to become fitness centre co-ordinator in 2005, has a history with the Department of Athletics that dates back to her days as a student teaching fitness classes.

After graduation, she took her love of teaching fitness to a new level by starting her own consulting business in Toronto. In 2002, she and her husband, Chris, moved to Vancouver, where she continued to work as a fitness manager and personal



Lynne Skilton-Hayes manages some 45 fitness staff and ensures that the fitness centre's facilities, including the weight and cardio rooms, are kept in tip-top shape. PHOTO BY TONY SAXON, GUELPH MERCURY

trainer and did fitness segments on Global Television's morning show. During her years on the West Coast, she was invited back to U of G close to 20 times to provide training and certification courses to fitness instructors at the Athletics Centre.

Now here on a full-time basis, Skilton-Hayes trains, teaches classes and manages some 45 fitness staff and ensures that the fitness centre's facilities, including the weight and cardio rooms, are kept in tip-top shape. She also recommends facility improvements and upgrades, including this summer's installation of air conditioning in the cardio room.

In addition, she oversees U of G's personal fitness training program, a service that some members of the community may not realize is available, she says. The program is open to on- and off-campus clients, who can choose to train individually with a trainer or as part of a group.

"Group classes are great because they make personal training afford-

able for more people," she says. "Instead of paying \$80 per hour as an individual, you divide that rate among everyone participating in the session."

After registering to work with a personal trainer, clients receive a one-hour consultation session, as well as a postural assessment and a health screen. They also discuss their goals and work with the trainer to set a plan for achieving them.

"It's really important for a trainer and a client to have a rapport and to really get to know one another," she says. "It's something I insist on."

Over the past year, Skilton-Hayes has introduced a number of new fitness classes and programs, including Gryphon Boot Camp, a six-week outdoor cardio and strength-training regimen, and Women on Weights (WOW), a weight-training class designed exclusively for women. Both of these options are available this fall.

"There's both an educational

component and a workout component to the WOW program," she says. "It's specifically for women who struggle with issues like strength training, nutrition and flexibility."

Offering this type of class encourages women of various levels of fitness and experience to set goals for themselves and feel comfortable in the weight room, she says.

"In most gym environments, there are a niche of people — in many cases women — who don't feel confident training alongside younger or more knowledgeable people. This class gives women the know-how they need to confidently step into that room and get fit."

She has also launched a number of new workshops and classes, including those designed for pregnant women and new mothers.

"As an industry, fitness professionals are more educated and knowledgeable about how to train people at different stages of life and

with different physical conditions and limitations," says Skilton-Hayes, who also trains fitness professionals and was one of only 100 presenters at a national conference for Can-Fit Pro, the largest North American fitness conference, held in Toronto in August.

Another new class she's incorporated into Athletics Centre offerings features the BOSU (an acronym for both sides up), a piece of equipment that has a flat Plexiglas surface on one side and a dome on the other. "It's like a half ball," she says, noting that the BOSU improves balance and co-ordination while working muscles in such a way that it complements their everyday function.

"I love educating people to the point where they feel empowered and committed to a lifestyle change that will benefit them for the rest of their life. I'm very passionate about what I do. I absolutely love it."

On Sept. 23, Skilton-Hayes will be on Johnston Green leading an aerobathon to raise money for Big Brothers Big Sisters and Breast-strokes, U of G's dragon boat team of breast cancer survivors.

Registration begins at 8 a.m., and the event runs from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Participants must raise a minimum of \$50 to participate. Incentive prizes include a mountain bike, a stay for two at a local bed and breakfast, and a variety of sportswear and accessories.

For more information about fitness classes or the aerobathon, contact Skilton-Hayes at Ext. 52670 or send e-mail to lskilton@uoguelph.ca.

U of G employees interested in registering for fitness memberships may now do so using a new online system available at www.gryphons.ca. Beginning this semester, staff and faculty may also pay membership fees through payroll deduction. For more information, contact Linda Melnick at Ext. 52160 or lmelnick@uoguelph.ca.

Study Looks at Link Between Exercise, Diabetes

CBS prof examines metabolic reasons why people become overweight and how extra weight can lead to Type 2 diabetes

BY KAYLA DUFFIELD
SPARK PROGRAM

UOF G RESEARCHERS are working to better understand how exercise and adrenalin can burn fat and help curb the growing epidemic of obesity and Type 2 diabetes in Canada.

"The beautiful thing about exercise," says Prof. Lawrence Spriet, Human Health and Nutritional Sciences, "is that it helps muscles get better at using fat."

Spriet is looking at the metabolic reasons why people become overweight and how extra weight can lead to Type 2 diabetes. He's taking muscle samples from three groups of middle-aged men (obese, Type 2 diabetics and lean) to observe what's happening inside their muscles and to understand how the body uses fat and carbohydrates.

"The advantage of our research is that we

are actually taking measurements inside the muscles," says Spriet. "Less invasive techniques are less accurate."

Healthy people readily metabolize fat and carbohydrates into energy, but Type 2 diabetics do not, he says. They become resistant to insulin, which prevents the body from using glucose or sugar, the basic fuel of cells. Normally, insulin helps take glucose from the blood and feeds it to the cells, but in diabetics, glucose accumulates in the blood. Over the long term, excessive sugar can hurt the eyes, kidneys, nerves and heart, and cause excessive thirst, hunger, urination and fatigue.

Unable to use sugar, cells must rely on fat for energy (taking it from the blood). But this is also a flawed process in diabetics, says Spriet, because the fat accumulates in muscle.

An associated fat burner in muscle tissue is the enzyme hormone-sensitive lipase, which helps unlock the fat that is stored in the muscle

for fuel. He is conducting eight-week cycling programs to test how lipase is affected by exercise. Moderate exercise or adrenalin usually turns it on, but inactivity — common to obese people or Type 2 diabetics — turns the fat-burning enzyme off. Through his research, Spriet hopes to prove moderate exercise will

activate the lipase enzyme, promoting active living.

Also involved in this research were Rebecca Tunstall and Jane Rutherford of the Department of Human Health and Nutritional Sciences. Funding has been provided by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

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How Much Water Does A Stream Need?

Engineer aims to help better manage watercourses in Ontario

BY ANDREW VOWLES

GOING WITH THE FLOW isn't good enough. If we want clean drinking water and healthy aquatic ecosystems, says Prof. Andrea Bradford, Engineering, we'll need to better manage our water resources. Providing the necessary tools is the goal of her Guelph research, including a recently funded study of stream flow requirements meant to help protect and conserve stream resources in increasingly thirsty parts of southern Ontario.

How much water does a stream need to keep flowing? "A stream needs enough water to maintain connections along the channel and with riparian areas, the structure of the physical habitat and water quality," says Bradford. "Timing, duration and frequency of flows are also important to the ecosystem."

She came to Guelph in 2002 from a two-year posting as senior policy adviser in the Ontario Ministry of the Environment's (OME) water policy branch.

She aims to ensure that water management practices are based not just on drinking-water requirements — a key concern post-Walkerton — but also on the need to maintain ecosystems, such as the watershed encompassed locally by the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA).

Early this year, Bradford received a three-year \$150,000 grant from the OME to develop tools and techniques for quantifying water needs of streams. She'll work mostly in the Grand River watershed, an area that stretches from Dufferin County to Port Maitland on Lake Erie. The GRCA manages water and other natural resources for 38 municipalities — including Guelph — covering about 925,000 people.

She'll help develop ways to estimate just how much flow is needed to prevent ecological mishaps while trying to accommodate the needs of water users in parts of southern Ontario that have seen low water levels in recent years. Bradford explains that it's important to quantify ecosystem water needs to identify and resolve potential conflicts with human needs through watershed management.

As part of the Urban Systems Environmental Design research group in the School of Engineering, she studies ideas for water reduction and reuse, stream restoration, storm-water management and other measures.

For Bradford, that work doesn't end on the U of G campus. At her family's corner lot in the Hanlon Creek watershed, she commissioned a landscape architecture student to design a "rain garden." The plan — still only in blueprint form in her Thornborough Building office — incorporates various measures, from choosing drought-tolerant plants to building the soil's water-storing properties to installing rainwater



Prof. Andrea Bradford studies stream flow and water resources.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

storage devices.

"I'd like to do better at practising what I preach," says Bradford, who's interested in studying rainwater use and storage with her colleague Prof. Khosrow Farahbakhsh. "I don't want to use more city water for irrigation outdoors, and I don't want storm water running off the property."

Three years ago, she led the development of a plan to improve water quality in Sturgeon Bay, located on the east shore of Georgian Bay at Pointe au Baril. Along with her two children — Martin, 6, and Robyn, almost two — she can still swim there, but thanks to increased phosphorus loading, the water is far less clear than she remembers from her own childhood visits to the family cottage, and they have to stay out during occasional massive algal blooms.

Bradford wrote a report on the problem and developed an information package for cottagers and the community, although she says little action has been taken so far beyond the efforts of a small volunteer group.

She and her graduate students are also using hydrological and hydraulic models to study stream flow at Wilmot Creek east of Toronto and the Speed and Eramosa rivers and their tributaries. In Guelph, one of her grad students has investigated flow rates and development occurring since the 1950s to assess approaches to managing water resources.

Guelph has historically relied almost entirely on groundwater, but

Bradford says continued development will require the city to look at alternatives, ideally beyond the idea of piping water from Lake Erie (and returning treated waste water).

Earlier, she helped evaluate water policy and develop water provisions for the Oak Ridges Moraine conservation plan. For her PhD in civil engineering at Queen's University, she studied wetland hydrology and ecology in Mining Swamp near Barrie.

U of G Engineers Develop Detector for Prion Diseases

Sensor to provide simple, inexpensive test for BSE

BY ANDREW VOWLES

TWO U OF G ENGINEERS have received substantial research funding to continue developing a simple, inexpensive sensor for quick detection of brain-wasting infections related to mad cow disease.

Profs. Gordon Hayward and Warren Stiver, School of Engineering, will use almost \$200,000 in federal funding to further develop a device intended to pinpoint cases of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), or mad cow disease in cattle, and related forms of transmissible spongiform encephalopathies, or prion diseases.

The researchers received a two-year \$178,000 grant from PrioNet Canada, a recently established national Network of Centres of Excellence for research on BSE and related diseases. The agency provided a total of \$3 million over two years for 10 projects across Canada on everything from vaccine development for BSE to the impact of prion diseases on farm family community health.

"We were thrilled with the number of applications," says Neil Casbman, PrioNet's scientific director. "Prion diseases have devastating economic, social, environmental and health consequences."

Scientists believe these fatal illnesses of the central nervous system are caused by proteins called prions that convert normal proteins into an infectious form. The incurable diseases, including variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in humans, cause sponge-like holes to develop in brain and nervous tissue.

The U of G engineers have devel-

oped an acoustic prion sensor whose quartz crystal detects the telltale misfolding of prion proteins from samples of nerve tissues, bodily fluids and environmental samples.

Working with scientists at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in Ottawa, Hayward and Stiver have shown that their device can distinguish between normal samples and brain tissue of sheep infected with scrapie and deer with chronic wasting disease.

The sensor provides results in about two hours, at least as fast as conventional tests using antibodies. A convenient rapid assay to pinpoint infected individuals could avoid the need to cull entire herds of cattle suspected to have BSE.

Referring to their earlier work funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Hayward says: "We have proven the principle. We plan to expand the evidence and answer important questions to support development of a commercial device."

Their new funding will allow them to continue developing the device, including testing it for use on urine and blood samples.

They hope to find a commercial partner to produce the sensors for wider use, likely by laboratory or veterinary diagnostics companies.

As of late August, eight cases of BSE had been detected in Canada since 2003. The initial case led the United States and other countries to close their borders to Canadian beef imports, a move that cost the Canadian economy about \$6.3 billion before the U.S. ban was lifted in mid-2005.

Ethical Responsibilities Focus of OVC Animal Welfare Forum

THE ETHICAL responsibilities surrounding animal welfare will be explored at OVC's seventh Animal Welfare Forum Sept. 30 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Lifetime Learning Centre. The forum will also celebrate the retirement of Prof. Ian Duncan, Animal and Poultry Science, a world leader in animal welfare.

The forum is intended to raise awareness of the welfare of animals, including companion animals, lab and zoo animals and livestock. Organizers also aim to raise money for the annual \$1,000 Care-a-thon animal welfare graduate research scholarship.

"Animal welfare as a general topic is very important for veterinary students as well as for the general public," says Lizete Valdmans, a veterinary medicine student and co-president of the OVC Animal

Welfare Club. "Our major focus is education and awareness of various animal welfare issues, and as a student group, we want to gain a broader understanding of some of these issues."

Morning speakers are Terry Whiting, an expert in disease control and epidemiology at Manitoba Agriculture's veterinary services branch; Daniel Carey, director of technical communications for the research and development division of Iams; and Amy Kerwin, founder of Primates, Inc., who will discuss "Retiring Old and New World Monkeys From Research Facilities."

The afternoon program will honour Duncan's pioneering role in the field of animal welfare research. He officially retired from U of G in May.

"Prof. Duncan has been a very influential researcher in the animal welfare field and is internationally

recognized for his contributions," says Valdmans. In addition to his work at Guelph, he was previously a member of a government research institute in Scotland and advised the European Commission on animal welfare issues.

Prof. Georgia Mason, Canada Research Chair in Animal Welfare, says Duncan "is a pioneer who helped establish what is now an international and thriving research field."

Afternoon speakers are Derek Haley of Alberta Agriculture, Jeff Rushen of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Anne Malleau, executive director of the Whole Foods Animal Compassion Foundation.

Registration is encouraged. A donation of \$10 is suggested to support animal welfare research at U of G. For more information or to register, contact Valdmans at lvaldman@uoguelph.ca.

A Good Move

After stints on TV's *Andromeda* and *Ready or Not*, Guelph grad relocates to Robson Arms

By REBECCA KENDALL

MOVING TO a new place generally means a new start and the beginning of new friendships. Laura Bertram sure felt that way in 1998 when she arrived at Guelph to study history after starring on the Global Television show *Ready or Not* for five years. This season marks another new beginning for Bertram, who earned her BA in 2004 in the midst of a five-year run on the U.S. TV series *Andromeda*. She's now setting up residence at Robson Arms, a fictional low rise in Vancouver's eclectic West End that provides the base for the CTV series of the same name.

"I'm so thrilled to be working in Canadian television again," says Bertram. "I feel really lucky because there are so many great Canadian artists who work on *Robson Arms*, and it's so well-written."

Going into its second season, the show stars Margot Kidder, Megan Follows, Mark McKinney and Shirley Douglas. Bertram plays Chris Colton, a woman who moves into the building with her partner, Andrew, played by Gabriel Hogan. Also joining the cast this year is Leslie Nielsen.

Bertram got her start in show business at age 12 after spending seven years with the Canadian Children's Opera Chorus and taking several years of ballet training. "I thought I'd enjoy singing and dancing, but I wasn't particularly good at either," she says.

Her agent suggested acting might be a better fit, and after auditioning for a few roles, she landed the series pilot for *Ready or Not*. "It was my first acting gig and I learned everything on the fly."

For the next five years, Bertram, who played lead character Amanda Zimm, spent long hours on the set and away from a traditional school setting. The role earned her much recognition, including four Gemini Award nominations and two wins.

Her work on *Ready or Not* led to a role in the TV miniseries *Seasons of Love* and guest spots on *Soul Food*, *Wind at My Back*, *Kung Fu: The Legend Continues*, *Mission Genesis* and *Are You Afraid of the Dark?* She also appeared in a number of films, including *Family Pictures* with Anjelica Huston, Sam Neill and Kyra Sedgwick, and *The Boys Next Door* with Nathan Lane and Robert Sean Leonard. Despite those early successes, however, something was missing from her life, she says.



"I really missed out on my high school experience. I missed the social aspects of being in school, and I missed being in a classroom."

Because of that, she wanted to attend university, but she didn't expect the transition to be as difficult as it was.

"I was at a good university, but I didn't do well socially there because of my background in television," says Bertram. "I wasn't accepted."

Impressed by what she'd seen and heard of U of G, where her then boyfriend was studying, she transferred to Guelph at the end of her first year.

"It was the smartest thing I've done in my life," she says. "I immediately felt like I belonged there, and it didn't matter who I was or what I did as a performer. I could just be myself, and that was so important to me. It was a fantastic place for me, and I met some great friends and had some fabulous professors who really inspired me."

She recalls, in particular, history professors Bill Cormack and Peter Goddard, who was her adviser for her thesis project on Protestantism in 16th-century France.

"Prof. Goddard has a passion for his work, and he inspires his students to feel the same. I remember wanting to take all his classes because I loved how he taught and how he encouraged

us. He made me want to learn as much as I could."

Bertram continued her acting work while at Guelph and performed the title role in the musical stage version of *Cinderella* in 1999. At the end of her third year, she was asked to audition for a new sci-fi series called *Andromeda*, a show created by *Star Trek*'s Gene Roddenberry.

She was cast in the role of Trance Gemini, an elusive and secretive character who revealed little about her history and infused the show with a sense of innocence and humour.

Although millions of miles away from Earth as Trance Gemini and thousands of miles away from the Guelph campus in real life, Bertram continued to work toward her BA while on set in Vancouver.

"I went to university to complete a degree in history because it's a subject I love. It may not directly employ me now, but I've definitely been able to draw on my education and understanding of history in terms of helping me with character

development and critical thinking."

She cites as an example her 1999 role as an Irish immigrant who moves to America after escaping the potato famine in the historical fiction series *Dear America: So Far From Home*.

"It was helpful to have knowledge about the struggles immigrants had coming to America. It's helpful to understand the context in which a character is formed socio-politically. Some actors will just pull their own experience out of their mind and apply it to their role, but I think to truly authenticate a performance, you need a context through understanding a character's past and what they've been through."

Andromeda, which also starred Kevin Sorbo and a number of Canadian actors, ended in May 2005.

"I definitely miss the people I worked with every day," says Bertram. "They were a great family to me, but I can't say I miss getting into the costume and makeup." She's referring to the body paint that took at least three hours to apply and another hour to remove.

For her role as Trance Gemini, she was nominated for a 2003 Leo Award for best supporting performance.

Bertram will appear on *Robson Arms* for the first time in the season's fourth episode.

DVM Students Host First OVC Leadership Week

Speakers, workshops, poster sessions, community-service event and vet-themed game show are on the agenda

UNLEASHING THE LEADER in DVM students is the goal of a new student-run conference being held at the Ontario Veterinary College this month.

The inaugural "OVC Leadership Week: Unleash the Leader" to be held Sept. 18 to 23 will introduce leadership skills through a mix of speakers, workshops, a community-service event, poster sessions and a vet-themed game show to be hosted by OVC dean Elizabeth Stone.

The conference keynote speaker is 1976 OVC graduate Carin Wittnich, a professor of surgery and

physiology at the University of Toronto and the OVC Alumni Association's 2005 Distinguished Alumna.

"Members of the public rely on veterinarians to educate them and guide them in the care of their animals, and it is only through good communication and leadership skills that this is possible," says Jackie Parr, a second-year DVM student and conference student manager.

In addition to treating animals, veterinarians must be able to advocate for the welfare of animals and know how to share research findings with the public effectively, she says.

The event is targeted at first-year DVM students but will also attract second- and third-year students, says Parr. Attendees will learn skills such as communication, teamwork and self-direction intended to help them succeed at vet school and beyond, she says.

"Fostering strong relationships among students today lays the foundation for a unified veterinary profession in the future."

The week will also provide an opportunity for networking with senior student veterinarians and professional veterinary organizations,

says Blánaid Donnelly, a second-year student and member of the Leadership Week committee.

Workshop sessions about OVC's strategic plan will discuss animal health and well-being, human-animal health links and connections between public health and animal population health. Students will be invited to attend poster presentations on OVC's summer leadership and research projects.

The student vets will also have a chance to participate in a community-service project with Big Brothers Big Sisters. Children involved in

that program will participate in a number of activities designed to expose them to a side of veterinary medicine they may not be aware of, says Donnelly.

"Veterinarians are first and foremost scientists, so this event, while designed to be fun, will be educational, too. The children will learn about proper care of small animals and some fun, interesting facts about other domestic species. They'll also learn about surgical instruments via toy surgery and will even be able to relate some basic domestic animal anatomy at an archeological dig site."

U of G Researchers Publish Range of Studies

Variety of Guelph projects featured in international journals

FROM SAFER bean sprouts to new "sulphur-breathing" microbes to new-employee orientation, a variety of findings by U of G researchers were published this summer. Here's a rundown of some studies reported by faculty and other researchers across campus during the past three months.

SPROUTING A NEW SOLUTION

Bean sprouts, alfalfa sprouts and other types of sprouts contain compounds that reduce the risk of cancer and help lower cholesterol levels. But sprouted seeds have caused at least one outbreak of food-borne illness every year since 1980. A new method to decontaminate sprout seeds ensures that consumers can gain health benefits without worrying about contracting food-borne illness, according to a study reported in the *Journal of Food Protection* by a research team that includes Prof. Keith Warriner, Food Science.

Even after 600 people in Ontario contracted salmonella from bean sprouts in November 2005 and 6,000 people in Japan fell ill and 13 people died after contracting *E. coli* O157 from radish sprouts in 1995, there are still no safety measures in place to ensure pathogen-free sprouts, says Warriner. The bacteria can lodge in tiny seed cracks and are difficult to eliminate during germination. Because most sprouts are eaten

raw, they're not exposed to temperatures high enough to kill pathogens.

The team's new sanitizer made of a chemical used in toothpaste and contact lens solutions is harmless to the sprouting seed but lethal to pathogens such as *Salmonella* and *E. coli* O157:H7. The team has submitted a global patent for the sanitizer, called Germin-8-or, and its producers are seeking regulatory approval and distributors in North America.

JOB ORIENTATION IMPORTANT

Organizations that offer structured, well-planned orientation programs for new employees are more likely to have motivated, satisfied and committed workers, according to a study by Prof. Jamie Gruman, School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, published in the *Journal of Vocational Behavior*.

"The bottom line is, the more structure there is around the socialization of new employees — informing them about the kind of training they'll receive and when training will take place — the more likely new employees are to seek information and feedback and view themselves as part of the organization," he says.

Gruman's survey of undergraduate-level co-op education students found that socialization and programs to integrate new employees can lead to greater employee retention, productivity, commitment and

initiative.

New employees are often given a day of intense training and are bombarded with information that they don't understand or remember, he says. This leaves them feeling unprepared to do their job, and they perform poorly as a result.

FEWER STUDENTS TAKING PE

Ontario's high schools offer plenty of physical education classes and intramural and inter-school sports, but fewer than half of students take PE classes after Grade 9 and only a fraction are involved in school sports and recreation programs, according to a U of G study published in the *Journal of Adolescent Health*.

Student participation in physical activity has declined steadily during the past six years, says Prof. John Dwyer, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition. A specialist in physical activity promotion and a member of Health Canada's Food Guide Advisory Committee, he conducted the study with Kenneth Allison of the University of Toronto.

Dwyer says the finding is part of an alarming trend of inactivity among Canadian youth, which is contributing to an epidemic of obesity and overweight status. Since 1981, the percentage of obese children in Canada has tripled, and less than half of all youth are physically active enough for optimal growth and development. The study highlights the effects of policy on participation in school-based physical activity and the need to promote sports and recreation opportunities for youth outside of school.

NEW MICROBE MAY HOLD CLUES

A new microbe that may hold clues to how life began on a harsh young Earth has been discovered by

an international team of scientists, including Prof. Terry Beveridge of the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, holder of the Canada Research Chair in the Structure, Physical Nature and Geobiology of Prokaryotes.

In a paper published this summer in *Nature*, the team says primitive organisms found thriving in extremely hot, acidic conditions may also be important players in cycling crucial elements such as sulphur and iron at deep-sea vents.

It's the first acid-loving archaeon found around deep-sea hydrothermal vents, where minerals released from superheated water support organisms that "breathe" sulphur or metals instead of oxygen. Those conditions are believed to resemble those that nurtured the first life forms on Earth about 3.6 billion years ago.

"We've suspected that microbes there resist strong acids and high temperature, but no one has been able to isolate one," says Beveridge.

The research team was led by Anna-Louise Reysenbach, a professor of microbial biology at Portland State University and a longtime research collaborator with Beveridge.

MARIJUANA MAY RELIEVE NAUSEA

Prof. Linda Parker, Psychology, has discovered that marijuana may help prevent anticipatory nausea — relief that many cancer chemotherapy patients can't obtain from existing anti-vomit and anti-nausea drugs. Her research was published in recent issues of the journal *Physiology and Behavior*.

Anticipating nausea and vomiting from chemotherapy, some patients may be deterred from continuing with treatment, says Parker, who was appointed to a Canada Research Chair in Behavioural Neuroscience this summer. "Known antiemetic drugs aren't effective in treating this learned nausea."

In her study, she learned how two compounds found in marijuana — THC (marijuana's high-inducing chemical) and cannabidiol — can treat vomiting and nausea.

"People report that if they smoke marijuana before they go for chemotherapy treatment, they don't experience the anticipatory nausea or vomiting," says Parker, whose collaborator — Raphael Mechoulam of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem — discovered THC.

SENIORS NEED GOOD NUTRITION

Allowing vulnerable elderly adults to look after their own nutrition may leave them at much greater nutritional risk, says Prof. Heather Keller, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition. Her studies published in the *Journal of the American Dietetic Association* and the *Journal of Nutrition Health and Aging* found that meal assistance programs such as Meals on Wheels, family support systems and formal nutrition programs help prevent malnourishment in elderly adults.

"Nutrition risk is found to pre-

dict mortality and health-related quality of life, so it's extremely important to find ways to help vulnerable seniors improve their food intake," says Keller. "By providing a hot meal a day, you do actually improve the food intake of an individual."

She also found that vulnerable elderly adults with access to family members had better diets than did seniors without family support.

ECOLOGICAL FOOD WEBS AT RISK

Even as biodiversity comes under increasing threats from human activity, a new study by U of G researchers published this summer in *Nature* reveals that the stability of ecological food webs is also at risk.

The study, headed by post-doctoral researcher Neil Rooney and Prof. Kevin McCann, Integrative Biology, says complex ecosystems are held together by their top predators — the very species most under threat from humans.

"It's an important finding," says Rooney. "It indicates that top predators keep food webs in check and that if you remove them, the systems will unravel."

The team surveyed data from eight aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems across the world, including Chesapeake Bay, the Alaskan tundra, a European pine forest and a Dutch experimental farm.

Nutrient pollution from urban development or intensive agriculture can affect food webs, resulting in a loss of both diversity and stability, says Rooney. And removing a top predator such as tuna can harm an entire food web through its effects on everything from prey fish species to plankton. Predators — commonly dominant carnivores — are often more susceptible to human activity than other members of the food web.

INSURANCE RATES NEED NOT VARY

Instead of charging people different insurance rates based on their risk factors, insurance companies still come out ahead by charging everyone the same price, according to research by a U of G economist published in *The Geneva Papers*.

"Most people in the insurance industry believe you should charge people who have different actuarial costs different prices and to not do so is discriminatory," says Prof. Mike Hoy. "But I have a mathematical theorem that shows the equity benefits of charging everybody the same price could well outweigh the efficiency problem of doing so."

Hoy's theory says if factors are based on things like genetic diseases, which affect only small groups of people, charging everyone the same amount shouldn't be a detriment to insurance companies.

More analysis needs to be done to determine exactly how small of a high-risk group is "small enough" to charge everyone the same premiums, but it's safe to assume smaller variables like genetic tests will produce favourable results, he says.

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It's Been a Dog's Life for Gog and Magog

Editor's note: This is the first in a series of columns highlighting some of the unusual treasures to be found in the U of G Library's Archival and Special Collections.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

THE CHINA DOGS survived their Atlantic voyage intact. But here in Canada, Gog and Magog proved no match for several youngsters whose spirits apparently exceeded even those of Lucy Maud Montgomery's irrepressible Anne of Green Gables.

After having spent years boxed up in a basement, the dogs' shattered selves were nearly relegated to the dump more than a quarter-century ago. But that fate was averted by a chance visit to the writer's family by now-retired English professor Mary Rubio.

Today both dogs — their heads glued back together, although none too discreetly — occupy a banker's box in the U of G Library. They're part of the University's extensive L.M. Montgomery Collection — the only dogs in that collection and, indeed, the only dogs in the entire library archives, says department head Lorne Bruce.

Seated erect to their full 16-inch height, they're obviously a matched pair: off-white bodies with gold-coloured spots and black-lined staring eyes that give them a slightly startled expression. Rubio calls them spaniels, although their creator probably took some licence. Prof. Lynne O'Sullivan, Clinical Studies, checked the dogs during a seminar at the library this summer and calls them "a generic small-breed dog, spaniel-like perhaps but not specific enough."

Whatever they are, one sits with its body facing to the right, the other facing to the left — just as Anne Shirley was reminded when she received a pair of china dogs as a wedding gift from her former rooming-house landlady. In *Anne's House of Dreams*, it was at Miss Patty's home that Anne — then a college student living away from home — had first fallen for the dogs. Writes Miss Patty: "You will not have forgotten that Gog looks to the right and Magog to the left."

That's also the way the dogs — not the fictional ones received by the red-haired Green Gables heroine but the Staffordshire china dogs brought back home by her famous creator — were displayed in the parlour of the Presbyterian manse in Leaskdale, Ont., where Montgomery



Lucy Maud Montgomery's cherished Staffordshire china dogs have suffered much at the slippery hands of children over the years, but they now live a safe and quiet life at the U of G Library.

PHOTO COURTESY OF U OF G LIBRARY

unpacked them after returning from a three-month honeymoon trip to England in 1911.

The pair was about a century old when she spotted them in a shop in the city of York. By then, Montgomery and her new husband, Rev. Ewan Macdonald, had been abroad for nearly two months. During their travels, she'd kept an eye open for china dogs akin to the pair in her grandfather's home she'd remembered from childhood.

In a diary entry for late August, she writes with something of Anne Shirley's own overwrought style: "Yesterday in a little antique shop near the Minster, I found two pairs of lovely dogs and bought them on the spot, lest they be enchanted dogs which would vanish forever if I made them not mine immediately."

Gog and Magog — believed to be named for evil kings who launched an end-times attack against Israel — sailed across the Atlantic during Montgomery's first-class passage aboard a White Star steamer.

In Leaskdale, they guarded either side of a bookcase in the manse. Writes Rubio in the manuscript of her upcoming Montgomery biography: "This was appropriate in a symbolic sense: Ewan's world was of theology and Maud's world was that of the imagination, of books and of literature. Perhaps she saw her dogs as protecting her corner of the room against too much theology."

The dogs could have used some protection against inquisitive and

none-too-careful fingers. A 1939 diary entry in Montgomery's selected journals, edited by Rubio and English professor emerita Elizabeth Waterston, relates how an afternoon was spoilt when a visiting child dropped Gog. "The head and shoulders were smashed to smithereens. I could hardly keep the tears back."

Years later, both dogs ended up broken again, this time by Montgomery's then teenage grandsons. After that, their bodies and shattered heads were boxed up at the home of Stuart Macdonald, Montgomery's younger son. Rubio remembers visiting the home around 1979 while Stuart's wife, Ruth, was cleaning out the basement.

Says Rubio: "She brought the box of shards up and asked Stuart if it was OK to discard it in the other rubbish. I saw what they were and gasped — and begged the Macdonalds not to even consider discarding them, so the shards went back downstairs and stayed there until the University of Guelph bought them and everything else from the Macdonalds. I shall always be glad that I happened to be there that fateful day because I'm quite sure I saved a valuable relic from the garbage."

The dogs arrived at U of G in 1983 and were glued together once more in the archives. Bruce says the collected pair provides a glimpse not just into Montgomery's writer side but also into her domestic life. "It indicates that she was a collector."

THANKS FOR CORNERSTONE FUND SUPPORT

On behalf of Alumni Affairs and Development, I would like to thank all campus community members who contributed to the success of the 2005 Cornerstone Fund through gifts and payroll pledges.

The generosity of faculty, staff and retirees sets an important example for the external community, reflecting a deep pride in the institution we serve. Personal contributions received in 2005 from more than 715 members of the U of G community created a fund of \$284,627 to help the University meet the significant challenges and exciting opportunities ahead.

Please refer to www.alumni.uoguelph.ca/donor_report2005.htm for a complete list of 2005 U of G donors.

As the fall semester begins, the staff in Alumni Affairs and Development thank our donors, volunteers and advocates throughout the campus community for the support given to our fundraising efforts. We recognize the significance of your personal commitment to the University of Guelph and look forward to earning your continued confidence for many years to come.

Joanne Sboveller, Vice-president (alumni affairs and development)

IT WAS A SMOOTH MOVE

We moved our daughter Krista into South Residences Sept. 3 and want to express our appreciation to all the hard-working people who helped make this a well-organized event.

This was our first time in this situation, so we were a little apprehensive about how it would all work, even though we had read all the helpful information on the website. It went very smoothly, and we were in Krista's room helping her unpack about an hour after first lining up on Stone Road.

All the volunteers were cheerful and helpful, despite the off-and-on drizzle, and we certainly appreciated their entertaining us while we were waiting in line.

Our sincere thanks to everyone involved in making this transition easy for our family, especially Krista.

Chris and Terrie Dewsbury, Camlachie, Ont.

Library Establishes Building-Use Policy

Guidelines cover behaviour and equipment use

MORE THAN ONE MILLION patrons walk through the doors of the U of G Library each year, and making sure everyone has a good experience is a priority for library staff. To ensure that patrons understand their rights and responsibilities when using the facility, the library has established a building-use policy outlining guidelines for behaviour and equipment use.

"Our library is an amazing facility for people to enjoy, but we must make sure that all users feel comfortable in the space and that the rights of all patrons are respected," says Helen Salmon, associate chief librarian, user services.

The policy, which came into effect this month, lists "quiet" areas to be used for private study and research. These consist of all enclosed individual study areas; the basement and the second, third, fifth and sixth floors of the library; and the McNabb Room and book stack area of the OVC Learning Commons. Conversations in these areas are to be kept quiet and brief, and

cellphone use is not permitted, says Salmon. Headphones are allowed as long as the sound is inaudible to others, and laptop computers must have their audio features turned off or muted.

Group study areas, where dialogue is encouraged and limited cellphone use is permitted, include the first and fourth floor of the library, all enclosed classrooms and meeting rooms, and the main area of the OVC Learning Commons.

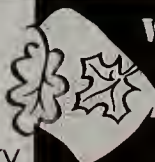
Maps indicating quiet versus group study spaces are posted in the library to show the intended use of all public spaces in these facilities.

The library also reminds users to dispose of all personal garbage and recyclables in the receptacles provided, to make appropriate use of computing resources, and to generally behave in a manner that is respectful of others.

For more information, contact Salmon at Ext. 52121, send e-mail to hsalmon@uoguelph.ca or visit www.Lib.uoguelph.ca/about/policies/building.cfm.



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ALESIA TESSARI

Alumni officer in Alumni Affairs and Development since 2006

Since moving back to Guelph from Kingston a year ago, Alesia Tessari has made a conscious effort to give back to her hometown community by volunteering for a number of local organizations.

On Sept. 17, she's volunteering at the Taste of Guelph, a garden-party fundraiser that benefits St. Joseph's Health Care Foundation and the Foundation of Guelph General Hospital and features food and drink from a number of area restaurants.

In 2005, Tessari joined the fundraising committee of Wyndham House, a charitable organization that provides safe and stable co-operative living residences for youth aged 16 to 21 who would otherwise be homeless. The committee is gearing up for the annual CBC reading of *A Christmas Carol* in December and a gala event to be held in March.

"It's important for me to give back by working towards helping the lives of others," she says.

In addition, she recently joined a fundraising committee for the Bob Rumball Association for the Deaf and has been helping to organize the group's annual fun run scheduled for Oct. 1 in Milton.

Tessari says volunteering has been a great way to meet people, and she's found Pilates to be another. Each week, she makes her way to a downtown studio and spends time with her classmates learning new techniques. She's been taking Pilates for the past five years and completed the first two levels of instructor training last fall.

"I like how it focuses on the mind-body connection, and I have a greater understanding of the mechanics behind the movements."

SHARLENE WONG

Fourth-year biomedical sciences student

For the past five semesters, Sharlene Wong has been working up to 10 hours a week as a peer helper at the Connection Centre desk in the University Centre. She says that meeting new people, being part of a team and learning about U of G are things she enjoys about being a peer helper.

"It gives me a broader understanding of how the University operates because I need to know about many different things. I sort of specialize in knowing a bit about everything. It has had a profound impact on my university experience."



Alesia Tessari

To help her perform her role as a peer helper and communicate confidently, Wong recently joined the Gryphons Toastmasters, a group of students and community members who meet weekly to improve their public-speaking skills and become effective communicators.

"I have issues with public speaking at times, and this group has been very helpful. I'm learning how to be a more confident speaker, how to use visuals effectively, how to run meetings and how to pay closer attention to my body language."

The group, which meets Wednesdays at 7:15 a.m. in Room 104 of Johnston Hall, provides her with feedback and constructive criticism that has helped her improve week after week, she says. "I've learned that it's not so bad to make mistakes. If I'm going to say something wrong, I might as well say it loud, because if I'm mumbling, I'm making two mistakes."

ELLIOTT CURRIE

Faculty member in the Department of Business, joined the University in 1998

Prof. Elliott Currie enjoys spending time at his cottage north of Wiarton at Whiskey Harbour.

"I do a lot of self-propelled sports like canoeing and kayaking," he says. "I also snowshoe, which beats cross-country skiing in this environment, because I need my hands to push back all the branches I encounter out there."

The light traffic from his home in Kitchener to the cottage and the solitude the property offers are some of the reasons he's drawn there. "There are only three or four families up there year-round, and it's really quiet," says Currie. "There are no streetlights, and I love the open water."

Last year, he published three textbooks and is now updating another, but he plans to put some time into writing something unrelated to his field.

"I've always written fiction and I've done a number of short stories, but I'm now doing research for something much different," he says, adding that he's not prepared to disclose the story's premise. "All I'll say is that it's about the interconnectedness of almost anything and everything. I'll leave it at that."

Currie enjoys history and reading books about the past. This summer, he read *Stalingrad* by Antony Beevor and *1421: The Year China Discovered the World* by Gavin Menzies.

"There's a lot of archeological and DNA evidence supporting the claim that the Chinese were the world's greatest and most prolific explorers," he says. "This has been a very important book for me these past few months."



Elliott Currie

Ag Communications Distance Diploma a North American First

Program's internship will nourish connections

NORTH AMERICA'S first distance learning agricultural communications diploma program gets under way this month at U of G.

Sponsored by OAC and delivered through the Office of Open Learning, the program combines technical skills and theory in journalism, communications and public relations with a focus on issues specific to the agri-food and environmental sectors. An international panel of instructors and coaches will lead students through a series of courses designed to enhance knowledge and applied skills in communications theory and practice.

"We are confident that this will become an internationally recognized program in agricultural communications," says OAC dean Craig Pearson.

Development of the 16-month program was overseen by an advisory committee chaired by Prof. Mary Buhr, OAC associate dean (academic), with representatives from media, the agri-food sector and the academic community.

Much of the program will be delivered online but will be augmented by three on-campus sessions. It also

includes a project-based internship, where students will apply their skills within the context of an agricultural workplace.

"The internship component will provide new opportunities for nourishing connections among students, professionals, employers and the University," says Owen Roberts, director of research communications, who serves as the program's academic co-ordinator.

Support for the program has been provided by a number of industry partners, including Ontario Pork, Pioneer Hi-Bred Limited, Syngenta Crop Protection Canada, the Agricultural Adaptation Council and GROWMARK Inc.

"Our industry is growing increasingly complex, accelerating the need to develop effective communicators who can make complicated issues such as the various perspectives on biotechnology or nutrient management more understandable to the Canadian public," says Art Stirling, government and industry affairs manager for Pioneer.

For more information, visit the program website at www.agcommunications.ca.

Donate Your Miles During September!

Month-long campaign supports international studies

MEMBERS of the U of G community have another opportunity this month to turn their Aeroplan miles into support for students.

The Aeroplan charitable pooling program, started in 2005, was the first Aeroplan partnership with a university, allowing people to donate their miles to be used by undergraduate and graduate students travelling internationally for exchanges, semesters abroad, research or study that contributes to the completion of their Guelph degree.

About 450 U of G students study abroad in 25 countries each year, but for many others, the travel costs are prohibitive. The Aeroplan program is designed to give more students access to an international experience.

In the inaugural year of the initiative, more than 200,000 Aeroplan miles were donated, providing travel tickets for two students in 2006. One of those students — Kelly Bairos — is currently participating in the London semester.

"The Aeroplan program has allowed me to follow one of my dreams and study in England," writes Bairos from London. "I'm a student of British history, and to have the opportunity to see historical documents first-hand and be in the actual city where this history took place is absolutely amazing. Without the Aeroplan program, I probably wouldn't have been able to participate in the London semester and have this terrific one-of-a-kind learning experience."

For more information about the program and how to donate your miles, visit the website www.alumni.

AT GUELPH PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Publication Date

Sept. 27

Oct. 11

Oct. 25

Nov. 8

Nov. 22

Deadline

Sept. 18

Oct. 3

Oct. 17

Oct. 31

Nov. 14

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Valerie Poulton

The following appointments were announced this summer at U of G:

- Anna Bolinder, assistant director, Animal-Care Services
- Marina Brash, veterinary pathologist, Animal Health Laboratory
- Amanda Bridge, client services clerk, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Lise Burcher, associate professor, School of Environmental Design and Rural Development
- Jane Coventry, laboratory technician, Animal Health Lab
- Carol Ann Davies, clinic aide, Student Health Services
- Robert Deardon, assistant professor, Mathematics and Statistics
- Rose Diamante, assistant to the assistant vice-president, Office of Registrar Services
- Gerry Di Cicco, supply, processing and distribution technician, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Wade Doboll, animal facility manager, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Alison Downie, veterinary technician, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Joseph Dunford, facility manager, Laboratory Services
- Sandra Duval, student admissions and records assistant, Alfred
- Jenny Fraser, systems clerk, Hospitality Services
- Guillaume Girouard, treasury analyst, Financial Services
- Frebis Hoffmeyer, counsellor's assistant, College of Management and Economics
- Amanda Holt, agricultural assistant, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Heather Holyoake, agricultural assistant, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Cynthia Hong, lab technician, Animal Health Lab
- Ric Jordan, manager, Arboretum
- Brian Lamont, senior vehicle mechanic, Transportation Services
- Susan Lee, supervisor, Cultural Microbiological Lab, Lab Services
- Mary Lindinger, purchasing clerk, School of Engineering

- Lynne May, human resource service assistant, Human Resources
- Jannilea McCandless, lab assistant, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Darlene McGeer, administrative secretary, Animal-Care Services
- Jason Moreton, interim director, Alumni Affairs and Development
- Michael Morrison, lab technician, Animal Health Lab
- Anne O'Donnell, veterinary nursing manager, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Rina Pigozzo, client services representative, Animal Health Lab
- Marianne Poschung, client services representative, Animal Health Lab
- Shannon Reid, veterinary technician, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Paul Rice, electrician, Physical Resources
- Lilian Schaer, research communications and marketing officer, Office of Research
- Peter Scheffer, electronics technician, NMR Centre, CPES
- Helen Scott, veterinary technician, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Matthew Searle, Analyst 2, Computing and Communications Services
- Gina Sinclair, store clerk, U of G Bookstore
- Deb Stacey, chair of the Department of Computing and Information Science
- Margaret Stalker, veterinary pathologist, Animal Health Lab
- Shannon Talbot, parking counter clerk, Campus Community Police, Fire Prevention and Parking Services
- Narsh Thevathasan, manager, agroforestry research and development, Department of Environmental Biology
- Karen Tomchick, communications assistant, Alumni Affairs and Development
- Ed Townsend, department head, Hospitality Services.

Police Offer Tips to Keep Bicycles Safe

Plans under way to offer Can-Bike program on campus this fall

BY ANDREW VOWLES

HIS ROUTINE had been the same for 20 years — until one day late this summer. Leaving the Food Science Building Aug. 31, Prof. Shai Barbut realized something was wrong. Lying on the ground near his customary bike rack were a severed cable lock and his helmet. Gone was the bicycle itself.

"I didn't see the bike," he says. Worse, he had chosen to leave his \$130 RST model at home that day, opting to ride his son's \$650 mountain bike. "I was very, very upset."

A week later, he still hadn't seen it. Nor did he expect to. Few bikes stolen on campus are ever reported as recovered, says Elizabeth Bouchard, special constable with the Campus Community Police. Since January, her office has received 17 reports of stolen bicycles or bicycle parts on campus. Only one was reported as recovered.

That's a relatively small proportion of the cycling traffic normally seen on campus, which averages between 500 and 1,000 bikes a day, says Bouchard, a member of the police bicycle patrol team. Still, as more two-wheeled commuters have returned to campus this month for the new semester, her office has been working on plans to "emphasize cycling safety and security."

Campus police plan to offer the Can-Bike Program, an instructional course that includes a component on bicycle locks and security. Bouchard hopes to offer that course on campus this fall, following up on a bike-safety program offered last spring with funding from the

women's campus safety initiative. (She and another officer have completed their own instructor training for the Can-Bike Program, run by the Canadian Cycling Association.)

Bouchard says bicycle thefts occur at bike racks all over campus, including residences and family housing units. She says no particular make or model is targeted, although sometimes someone stealing a bike will leave behind a cheaper model.

Referring to bike safety tips on the U of G Security Services website, she suggests a few ideas to make your bike more secure:

- Choose a U-lock made of hardened steel instead of a lightweight chain or cable lock that is easier to cut. The Can-Bike Program suggests you use two locks: a U-lock to secure the frame to the rack as well as a heavy-duty cable lock to secure removable components.
- Remove the seat and carry it with you.
- Position your bike frame and wheels to take up as much open space within the U portion of the lock as possible. The tighter the lock, the harder it is for someone to insert a pry bar to force it open.
- Don't lock only your front wheel to the rack. A common practice is for thieves to remove a bike frame, leaving only the front tire behind, then do the reverse with another bike.
- Fasten your bike to a rack rather than a chain-link fence, wooden handrail or signpost.
- Lock your bicycle in well-lit areas near well-travelled pedestrian routes.

- Make sure your bike has a serial number and write it down somewhere. Only five of the owners of bikes reported stolen this year knew their serial number. Campus police will lend you an engraver (Ext. 52245).

- Photograph your bike for insurance or police use.
- Report any suspect behaviour around bike racks to police.

Barbut still pedals the 15-minute ride to campus every day, but he now totes a sturdier U-shaped steel lock (\$120). And he secures the bike to a rack located in plain sight just outside his building, rather than his customary rack beneath several trees nearby.

He says he still feels personally safe on campus. "It's my campus — I've been here 20 years, I want to believe it's a safe place. But in terms of property, that's changed."

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Soy Research Funded

FOUR RESEARCH PROJECTS in the Ontario Agricultural College have been awarded more than \$100,000 from U of G's Hannam Soybean Utilization Fund to investigate new ways of using soy.

The utilization fund is a \$1-million, 10-year initiative created in 2000 by the co-founder of First Line Seeds, Peter Hannam, and his family. Funding is awarded each year to researchers who are tapping into the many beneficial properties of soybeans, one of Canada's most popular commodities.

Prof. Peter Pauls, Plant Agriculture, is receiving support for a new project delving into the potential of soybean protein as a raw material for biofibre production. Some proteins can be fashioned into thread, with extremely high strength and flexibility. As a result, they can be used in a variety of applications such as clothing, car seats and plastics.

The other three projects — all based in the Department of Food Science — are building on previous

support from the fund.

Two of the projects are focused on ensuring that the nutritional benefits of soybeans, particularly the links to reduced risk of cardiovascular disease, are maintained when soy is used as a food additive.

Prof. Milena Corredig is continuing her research on the processing performance of soy protein in soy-based drinks. This has the potential to ensure that soy proteins maintain their nutritional edge when added to a product, so their health benefits are passed on to the consumer.

Prof. Shai Barbut is building on research to increase the use of soy protein isolates in meat products. Alternative ingredients such as soy are being added to improve the texture and binding of low-fat meat products.

Prof. Art Hill is looking at developing new soy products by gelling soy proteins. His end goal is a totally soy-based product with the consistency of cheese rather than tofu.

HOMEcoming '06

Sat. Sept. 23, Alumni Stadium, U of G

Join Us at the Aerobathon - A Fundraiser for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guelph & BreastStrokes

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Distinguished Visitor to Focus on Teaching

Continued from page 1

Humanities, Arts, Science and Technology Advanced Collaboratory, an international consortium of leading humanities organizations and science and technology institutes. She is the author or editor of 18 books, including *Closing: The Life and Death of an American Factory* (a collaboration with documentary photographer Bill Bamberger), which received the Mayflower Cup Award for non-fiction.

She's now working on a book about higher education, *Thinking at the Interface: The Future of Higher Education in an Age of Technology*, as

well as a social history of the scientific and educational categories of "learning disabilities" and "giftedness."

Guelph's Distinguished Visiting Teaching Professor program focuses on theory, practice and scholarship of teaching by bringing a notable and respected teacher to campus each year to spend several days interacting with faculty, students and staff. Developed to complement the teaching excellence of U of G's 3M Fellows, the program is intended to focus especially on the scholarship of teaching.

Homecoming 2006

Continued from page 1

display, begin at 11:30 a.m. in the stadium. In addition, more than 20 community artisans and organizations will be setting up booths around campus.

The football game begins at 2 p.m. with the Gryphons hosting the University of Toronto Blues. The ceremonial kickoff will feature Guelph Mayor Kate Quarrie. Amy Nodwell will sing the national anthem, and the Northern Ohio State 150-member marching band will perform at halftime.

Karen Zuccala, marketing and communications manager for the Department of Athletics, notes that a number of prizes will be given out

during the game, including a trip for two to Europe provided by Travel CUTS. In addition, RBC is sponsoring a punt, pass and kick event in which the prize is a semester of free tuition for a U of G student.

Admission to the game is \$8 general, \$6 for seniors and alumni and \$4 for students. A family package of two adult and two student tickets is available for \$20. In addition, those buying advance tickets will receive free transportation courtesy of Guelph Transit (just show your ticket to the bus driver).

For tickets and more information, visit www.gryphons.ca or call 519-82-GRYPH (519-824-7974).

Where Are You Now?

A new semester means another chance to win a \$50 gift certificate donated by the U of G Bookstore for recognizing various landmarks and locations on campus. If you can identify where this photo was taken, you will have your name entered in a draw to be held at the end of the semester. Anyone who submits the right answer by Sept. 15 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca or call Ext. 56982. We also invite readers to submit their own campus photos for this feature.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL



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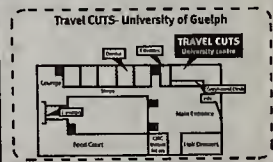


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Dog barrier, suitable for station wagon, like new; small and medium dog cages, 519-836-1066 or mmiddlelet@uoguelph.ca.

GARMIN GPS 76 Marine Navigator, never used, 12-channel GPS receiver with WAAS, 1-MB internal memory, waterproof and buoyant, up to 16 hours of use on two AA batteries, Dawn, Ext. 58678, 905-451-0720 or downen@uoguelph.ca.

Metallic orange Renegade mountain bike and royal blue CCM Excel bike, both with 14-inch frames and 20-inch wheels, good condition, 519-836-0125 after 4:30 p.m.

Multi-function Brother printer/copier/fax/telephone/answering machine; three-drawer white dresser; oval wicker mirror, 519-836-0461.

Long brown couch, ideal for student, Ext. 56552.

Two male blue-point kittens, one five months and one four months, raised in loving home, parents on site, photos available; younger Siamese kittens also available, Karen, 705-488-2021 or k-lawrence@sympatico.ca, or Dawn, 905-451-0720 or downen@uoguelph.ca.

1979/80 Yamaha Y2 dirt bike, good condition, good starter bike for nine- or 10-year-old; 52-inch Mitsubishi television, needs repair; hamster cage and accessories, 519-821-7069.

Microwave hutch, black with dark green marble front, glass upper door; glass dining table, 48 inches

square, dark green wrought-iron pedestal base, four matching armchairs with casters; trilight floor lamp, brown with cream shade, gaedward@uoguelph.ca.

Study desk, dresser, table and chairs, patio table and chairs, coffee and end tables, child's bicycle, microwave and stand, dishes, pots, free delivery, 519-824-5440.

Entertainment cabinet with glass door, dressers, beds, wood kitchen table and chairs, desks, lamps, adult and children's bicycles, Ext. 53561 or 519-824-5412 after 5 p.m.

New single bed with linens, microwave, dishwasher, Dell desktop computer, two new tires for Nissan Altima, Mary, 519-836-1836 evenings or mgrbenc@uoguelph.ca.

Three-bedroom 1860s restored house plus attached 1½-bedroom coach house, downtown, large gardens, 519-836-7807 or www.PropertyGuys.com, ID 116220.

Vacant 60- by 100-foot infill lot in old University area, 10 Bordon St., between University and Dean avenues, 519-823-0579 or sfavrin@uoguelph.ca.

FOR RENT

Furnished four-bedroom house in downtown Guelph, walk to downtown and the University, sabbatical house suitable for new/visiting faculty or post-doc, available late December 2006 to April 2007, dates negotiable, John, Ext. 56007 or jklirono@uoguelph.ca.

One-bedroom basement apartment on quiet street, recently renovated, private entry, close to downtown and bus routes, 10-minute bike ride to campus, high-speed wireless Internet, available now, \$695 a month inclusive, Mark, 519-731-1913.

Two-bedroom second-floor apartment with balcony in semi close to Exhibition Park, near bus stops, laundry, parking, storage, suitable

for quiet single or couple, non-smokers, no pets, available end of October, \$960 a month inclusive, Wilfred, Ext. 54023 or wilfred@pr.uoguelph.ca.

Spacious one-bedroom walkout basement apartment in quiet neighbourhood off Eramosa Road, suitable for two people, cable and Internet available, 519-822-3371 or 519-835-8085.

WANTED

House to rent in Guelph area for non-smoking professional couple relocating from Ottawa, references available, 613-729-0990 or daphneandmichael@botmail.com.

AVAILABLE

Mature, reliable house/pet sitter for Guelph area, references available, 519-827-6580 or katkaye@hotmail.com.

Experienced teacher for tutoring or private individual/group lessons in French or Spanish, limited times available, individual or group rates, 519-824-0536 or dbuchner@uoguelph.ca.

Dog sitting in my home, Cobi, 836-8086.

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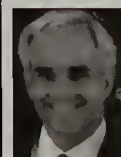
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ALPHA COURSE

Starts Sept. 25 at noon in Rathby House Meeting Room. Want to know more? Bring your lunch, watch a video talk and take the opportunity to explore the meaning of life.

Topic: "Christianity: Boring, Untrue & Irrelevant?" All students, faculty and staff are invited. Program continues to Dec. 4. For information or to register, send e-mail to alpha@uoguelph.ca.

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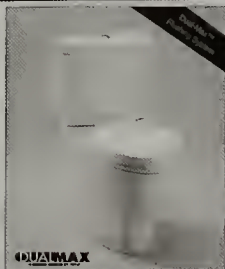


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EVENTS

ARBORETUM

The annual dedication service for the Wall-Custance Memorial Forest is Sept. 24 at 2:30 p.m. at the dedication grove across from the Arboretum information kiosk. For more information, call Ext. 52113.

Horticulturist Sean Fox leads a workshop on shrub identification Oct. 10 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$40. Registration is recommended by Sept. 26. Call Ext. 52358.

Trevor Chandler presents "Evening With the Stars" Oct. 3 and 5 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Cost is \$30. Registration is recommended by Sept. 19.

Naturalist Chris Earley discusses winter birds Oct. 11 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$45. Register by Sept. 29.

FILM

U of G's annual international film series, "Beyond Hollywood," kicks off Sept. 24 with the 1967 film *Capricious Summer* by Czech director Jiri Menzel. It will be shown at 7 p.m. in the Florence Partridge Room in the McLaughlin Library.

NOTICES

Third Age Learning Guelph launches its 38th season Sept. 20, offering two Wednesday lecture series at the Arboretum Centre. The morning series will focus on "Mass Media: Truth and Consequences." The topic of the afternoon series is "Great Adventurers Who Changed the World." For more information, call 519-829-3568 or visit www.thirdagelearningguelph.ca.

The Office of Open Learning is seeking homestay accommodation with native English-speaking families for 21 English teachers from China. They will be visiting U of G from Sept. 25 to Nov. 30 to study Canadian teaching methodology while polishing their English listening and speaking skills. Accommodation should include a private bedroom with study area and three meals daily. Compensation will be pro-

vided. A location close to a bus route is preferred. For more information or to offer accommodation, send e-mail to esl@uoguelph.ca or call Lily Zhou at Ext. 52149.

Occupational Health Services is offering a free lunchtime exercise program beginning Sept. 18. It runs Mondays and Wednesdays from noon to 1 p.m. Activities offered are leisurely walks, power walking, a learn-to-run program and a 30-minute run. Meeting place is in front of the Powell Building. To register, call Ext. 54283 or send e-mail to aeeveld@uoguelph.ca, indicating which one of the activities you'd like to participate in. For more information, call Ext. 52133.

The Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation is partnering with IBM Canada to offer two new scholarships for women in electrical or computer engineering. Application deadline is Oct. 20. For guidelines, visit www.cemf.ca or call 1-866-883-2363.

The U of G Christian Forum is sponsoring an 11-week Christian education program called "Alpha," starting Sept. 25 at noon in the Raithby House meeting room. The topic is "Christianity: Boring, Untrue and Irrelevant?" Bring your lunch. For information or to register, send e-mail to alpha@uoguelph.ca.

The Stress Management and High Performance Clinic is offering classes in relaxation and stress management skills training beginning Sept. 26. Sessions run Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. in OVC 1691. The clinic is also running a better sleep program on Tuesdays beginning Oct. 3. It meets at 7:30 p.m. in UC 004. For more details, visit www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers or leave a message at Ext. 52662.

The Community-Campus Partnerships for Health is calling for proposals by Oct. 6 for its 10th-anniversary conference, "Mobilizing Partnerships for Social Change," to be held April 11 to 14, 2007, in Toronto. For information, visit www.ccpf.info.

The U of G/OMAFRA research program invites submissions for new research letters of intent for the sustainable production systems program and the bioproducts research program. Letters must address program goals approved by OMAFRA and be submitted in a specific format by Oct. 2. For information, visit the website www.uoguelph.ca/research/omafra/index.shtml or call the Office of Research at 519-826-3809.

Registrar Services has introduced a change in office hours. On the following dates this semester, the office will not open until 9:30 a.m.: Sept. 21, Oct. 5 and 19, Nov. 2 and 16 and Dec. 7 and 21.

Applications are due Sept. 25 for the Canadian Awards for International Co-operation offered by the Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters. For information or an application form, send e-mail to treena.adhikari@cme-mec.ca or visit www.cme-mec.ca/caic.

SEMINARS

The Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology launches its graduate student seminar series Sept. 15 with Ana-Rita Rebelo exploring "Influenza A Pandemics of the 20th Century." On Sept. 22, Theresa Lindhout discusses "Combating Antimicrobial Resistance: Current Approaches to Novel Drug Discovery." The seminars begin at 12:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 115.

The Department of Pathobiology presents Dr. Khosrow Adeli of the Hospital for Sick Children exploring "Insulin Resistance and Its Metabolic Complications: Pathobiology of a Modern Epidemic" Sept. 22. On Sept. 29, Prof. Gordon Hayward, Engineering, discusses "An Acoustic Sensor for Prions." The talks are at 2 p.m. in Pathobiology 2106.

TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services (TSS) kicks off the semester with a number of events designed for faculty and instructional staff. For WebCT users, the following sessions are

available: "WebCT: Hands-on for First-Time Users" Sept. 19 and workshops on quizzes Sept. 21 and the gradebook Sept. 28.

For instructors who use Photoshop in their coursework, the popular five-part lunchtime series "Photoshop Tidbits" returns Sept. 26 with a session on optimizing images.

New or recent faculty are invited to attend the next session in the "New Faculty Luncheon" series — a Sept. 26 discussion of interdisciplinarity led by Distinguished Visiting Teaching Professor Cathy Davidson of Duke University. Details and registration for all workshops can be found on the TSS website at www.tss.uoguelph.ca. If you have questions, call Mary Naim at Ext. 53571.

THEATRE

The one-person show *Swiss Family Guy* Robinson comes to the Arboretum Centre Sept. 21 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 general, \$10 for students.

THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of George Ferreira, a PhD candidate in the rural studies program, is Sept. 18 at 1 p.m. in Landscape Architecture 132. The thesis is "Participatory Video for Policy Development in Remote Aboriginal Communities." The adviser is Prof. Ricardo Ramirez.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Corinne Babchishin, Integrative Biology, is Sept. 18 at 2 p.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "The Regulation of Glutamine Synthetase in Rainbow Trout, *Oncorhynchus mykiss*." The advisers are Profs. Nicholas Bernier and Pat Wright.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Distress Centre of Wellington-Dufferin seeks volunteers to staff its distress and support line. Intensive training is provided. Volunteers are asked to commit to 16 hours a month for one year. For more information, call 821-3760 or visit www.dc-wd.org.

The YMCA-YWCA of Guelph launches its 2006 Women of Distinction speaker series Sept. 20 with a presentation on "Caring for the Elderly" by geriatrician Dr. Sheri-Lynn Kane and Goldie Barth of Wellington County Social Services. It begins at 7 p.m. To register, call Robert Gruber at 519-824-5150.

The Guelph Concert Band welcomes new members for the 2006/07 season. Rehearsals run Sundays at 7 p.m. at the Guelph Youth Music Centre. For more information, send e-mail to info@guelphconcertband.org.

The BioEnterprise Corporation hosts its third annual "Path to Commercialization" forum Sept. 28 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Holiday Inn. This year's theme is "Finding Investment Capital." For information, call Tiffany King at 519-821-2960 or visit www.bioenterprise.ca.

The College Women's Club welcomes new members from the University community. The club offers nine interest groups; for information, call Susanne Wilson at 519-824-6935. For general information about the club, call Dianne Greenwood at 519-763-0012.

The Heart and Stroke Foundation's Cheerios Heart and Stroke Walk for Heart is Sept. 24 at Riverside Park. For information, call 519-837-4858. You can register online at www.heartandstroke.ca/walk.

The Guelph International Film Festival, which runs Nov. 4 to 6, will hold a meeting for prospective volunteers Sept. 19 at 7 p.m. in the Bookshelf Green Room. For more information, call 519-822-3110.

The Over Tones and friends present "All in a Flap!" Sept. 30 at 7:30 p.m. at the River Run Centre. Call 519-826-0844 or 519-763-3000 for tickets.

Theatre Guelph presents *Staff Room* by Joan Burrows Sept. 22, 23, 24 and 27 to 30 at the River Run Centre. For tickets, call 519-763-3000.

Colloquium to Celebrate Scottish Culture, History

THE UNIVERSITY will host its fall Scottish studies colloquium Sept. 30 in Room 102 of Rozanski Hall. Launched more than three decades ago, the colloquium will focus this year on a wide range of topics, including Scottish cuisine, saints and artifacts.

"The subject matter is Scottish and Scottish-Canadian, but the topics are of interest to a wide audience," says Prof. Graeme Morton, Guelph's Scottish Studies Foundation Chair. "It's a time to bring together the Scottish community to

celebrate our culture and history and to share it with others."

The colloquium opens with historian Mark Elliot of the University of St. Andrews discussing "Early Church in Scotland" at 9:30 a.m. and continues with Lindsay Irvin of the University of Toronto focusing on Scottish saints at 10:30 a.m.

Other speakers are U of G graduate student Elizabeth Ritchie, Mary Williamson of York University, Marjory Harper of the University of Aberdeen and Andrew Nicholl, an archivist at the Scottish Catholic Ar-

chives in Edinburgh.

At 1:45 p.m., Tim Sauer, head of information resources (collections) in the U of G Library, will be recognized for his role in building and expanding the University's Scottish studies collection over the last four decades.

"Tim has gone to remarkable effort to secure many of the items we have in our collection," says Morton, noting that U of G holds the largest Scottish archives and book collection outside the United Kingdom. "He has also done much to promote

the digitization of this collection to make it accessible around the world."

The Edward Stewart Graduate Scholarship in Scottish Studies will be presented during the afternoon. The \$15,000 award is made in memory of Edward Stewart, a former Ontario deputy minister of education and secretary of cabinet and past president of the Scottish Studies Foundation.

The colloquium will also feature traditional Scottish music and dance, with performers to include

soprano Katrine Anderson, who has sung with the Glasgow Hebridean Choir and has performed across the United Kingdom, North America and Africa. There will also be displays and a book sale.

Cost of the colloquium is \$35 for members of the Scottish Studies Foundation, \$40 for non-members and \$10 for students. Lunch is included.

For more information or to register, call Ext. 53209, send e-mail to scottish@uoguelph.ca or visit www.uoguelph.ca/scottish.

INSIDE: MASAI PROJECT SUPPORTS AFRICA • MYPORTICO DEBUTS • STUDENT SCHOLARS HONOURED

United Way Aims to Raise \$370,000

Campus campaign kicks off at barbecue Sept. 28

BY MARY DICKIESON

THE UNIVERSITY'S annual United Way campaign is under way, with more than 160 volunteers working to exceed their goal of \$370,000.

A kick-off barbecue Sept. 28 will offer a hot dog and pop for \$3 and a chance to meet some of those volunteers, including co-chairs Prof. Fred Ramprasad, Irene Thompson and Barb Caswell. Ramprasad is retired associate dean of the B.Sc. program, Thompson is associate director of residence life, and Caswell is a graduate student in the Department of Animal and Poultry Science.

All three are familiar faces from their leadership roles in the 2005 campus campaign, which raised \$368,816 for United Way Community Services of Guelph and Wellington.

"We're the cheerleaders," says Ramprasad, who hopes to increase participation rates in 2006. "The key players are the dozens of volunteer co-ordinators and canvassers who

will distribute pledge forms over the next week and help organize many, many special events during the nine weeks devoted to this year's United Way fundraising drive. And along the way, we're going to have a good time while supporting some really important organizations."

Adds Thompson: "There are 80 community programs that receive funding from the United Way, and each one is making a difference where it really matters. Representatives from several United Way agencies will be invited to speak on campus during the campaign, and we hope everyone has a chance to hear about their work."

She points readers to the U of G campaign website for additional information: www.uoguelph.ca/unitedway.

Caswell will use the website to post upcoming student events and involvement in United Way fundraising, and Ramprasad will keep the temperature rising on a cam-

Continued on page 3



Writer-in-residence Jane Urquhart will read from her most recent novel, *A Map of Glass*, Oct. 11 at 5 p.m. in the George Luscombe Theatre. The event is free and open to the public. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Urquhart Returns to Guelph as Writer-in-Residence

Novelist shares her expertise, passion for writing at her alma mater

BY RACHELLE COOPER

U OF GRADUATE and award-winning novelist Jane Urquhart is obviously best known around the world for her writing. But during her time on campus as this semester's writer-in-residence, she will put her writing aside and focus on reading as many Canadian short stories as possible, so she can compile the *Penguin Anthology of Canadian Short Stories*.

"In a synchronicity kind of way, this is the perfect moment for me to come back to campus since I have access to such a wonderful library and an office in which to concentrate on this very important work," says Urquhart, who earned a BA in English literature from Guelph in 1971 and studied art history here a few years later.

It's not only McLaughlin Library that she's excited to once again be a stone's throw from in her Massey Hall office, but it's also U of G's faculty.

"The University of Guelph has within its community a number of very interesting writers, so I hope to be able to communicate with them and find out if they have any favourite writers of short fiction that they would like to bring to my attention."

As for the writing she won't be able to do until the anthology is complete, "there's nothing like limited access to the thing you do most often to make it seem more magical

and mysterious and wonderful and desirable," she says.

The bestselling author of five internationally acclaimed novels, Urquhart won a 1997 Governor General's Award for her fourth novel, *The Underpainter*, and was named an officer of the Order of Canada in 2005.

"I don't really feel that I've changed that much since I was here as a student 30 years ago, and that's an odd thing because a lot has happened to me in the intervening years"

Her novel *Away* remained on the *Globe and Mail's* national bestseller list for 132 weeks — the longest of any Canadian book — and won the 1994 Trillium Book Award. *Away* was also shortlisted for the world's largest literary prize for a single work of fiction, the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award. Her first novel, *The Whirlpool*, received the Best Foreign Book Award in France. And her 2001 novel, *The Stone Carvers*, was a finalist for the Giller Prize and a Governor General's Award.

In addition to her novels, she has published three books of poetry and a collection of short fiction.

Urquhart began writing in high school and says the very thing that has made her an award-winning writer — her vivid imagination — is also what made her a mediocre stu-

dent. Bored and frustrated with school, she convinced her parents to let her attend a junior college in Vancouver rather than struggle through Grade 13. But she was too young to be so far from home, she says, and she didn't return to the college after Christmas.

She had heard that U of G offered early admission in the spring semester to Grade 13 students, and even though she had completed only one semester at the junior college, then dean of arts Murdo MacKinnon agreed to meet with her.

"I remember that we had a wonderful hour-long conversation about modern poetry and that, when it was over, he made it possible for me to enrol in the spring term."

After completing her first degree, Urquhart says she was drawn to return to U of G after her husband, Paul Keele, an artist and printmaker, died in a car accident in 1973.

"I wanted to study art history, partly to honour him and partly to be near a number of friends we had made while we lived in and around Guelph."

Making the transition from student to published author came gradually for Urquhart. In 1976 she married artist and University of Waterloo professor Tony Urquhart, who had full custody of two daughters and partial custody of two sons.

"There was so much domestic work to be done that it seemed nec-

Continued on page 14

Office of Research to Restructure

Changes to improve operations, services, opportunities

FOLLOWING A REVIEW by an external consultant and broad consultations with internal and external stakeholders, the Office of Research is being reorganized to improve operations, services, opportunities and collaborations.

Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research), says the restructuring "is based on a clear vision statement for the office, one that emphasizes our role as enabling and creating opportunities for research and creative endeavours in all disciplines, and facilitating the many ways the University's work can make a difference for society."

At the core of the changes is the recognized need to focus on services for all who rely on the Office of Research, says Wildeman.

"Recent expansion in the types of research programs, in total research funding, in reporting and auditing, and in the role governments expect university research to play in tech-

nology transfer and commercialization requires that we put greater focus on functions that ultimately underpin Guelph's research programs, including those carried out for the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs."

The restructuring includes four main components: reorganizing operations, a strong team approach with the colleges, enhancing communications and information strategies, and a greater emphasis on positioning the University's expertise externally.

As part of the reorganization, the position of associate vice-president (research and international relations) will become associate vice-president (research services).

This recognizes a change in focus that will be more internal and operational, including greater emphasis on working with the colleges and

Continued on page 14

India Semester Co-ordinator Winter 2008

The India Semester Committee, in conjunction with the Centre for International Programs (CIP), invites expressions of interest in the position of India Semester Co-ordinator for winter semester 2008.

Responsibilities of the co-ordinator include:

- recruiting and selecting students and conducting preparatory sessions
- negotiating semester details with colleagues in India
- supervising the semester in India and being available to students
- teaching at least one course and serving as an adviser to students on individual projects
- directing a series of field trips
- overseeing and administering the India Semester budget.

Interested candidates are invited to contact CIP director Lynne Mitchell (lmitchel@uoguelph.ca) by Oct. 16, describing the course they'd be interested in teaching in India.

Other questions can be directed to Prof. Terry Crowley, chair of the India Semester Committee, at tcrowley@uoguelph.ca.



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Hutt to Speak about Career, Donation to U of G Archives

Honorary patron of Shakespeare — Made in Canada festival to reminisce about his life

BY RACHELLE COOPER

U OF G IS HOSTING a lecture by William Hutt, Canada's leading classical actor, Oct. 4 at 5:30 p.m. in Rozanski Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

Hutt will be discussing his recent donation of personal papers and records to U of G's L.W. Conolly Theatre Archives. He will also reminisce about his life and career in Canadian theatre.

"The University and the library are thrilled that William Hutt will be on campus speaking about his career, his collection and his life in the theatre," says chief librarian and chief information officer Michael Ridley. "This time the great actor will play himself."

Born in 1920 in Toronto, Hutt

served in the Second World War and studied at the University of Toronto's Trinity College before landing a role at the Stratford Festival at age 33.

Hutt has performed more Shakespeare than Sir Lawrence Olivier or Christopher Plummer. He retired in 2005 after taking part in 39 seasons at Stratford, stretching back to the festival's opening in 1953. Hutt has also appeared on stages in London, Toronto and New York.

In addition to his recent gift, Hutt has donated scripts, reviews and articles, correspondence, essays, photos and personal documents, which make up the McLaughlin Library's William Hutt collection.

"The Conolly archives are an extraordinary gathering of diverse materials and resources," says Ridley,

"and the addition of William Hutt's collection extends the archives in a wonderful way. Hutt is a legend of Canadian theatre. His acting and directing career parallels the evolution of the Canadian stage from fledgling newcomer to world-class professionalism. Through his materials, students and scholars will see theatre from a new and very personal perspective."

Hutt is the honorary patron of the Shakespeare — Made in Canada festival, a series of regional Shakespeare events hosted by U of G, the Stratford Festival, the Guelph Arts Council and the City of Guelph and set to run January to May 2007. Its goal is to create a regional cultural synergy focusing specifically on Canadian interpretations, adaptations and exhibitions of the Bard's work.

Schofield Lecture Oct. 12

ONE OF CANADA'S leading experts on wildlife diseases will deliver the 2006 Schofield Memorial Lecture at the Ontario Veterinary College Oct. 12.

Ted Leighton, a professor of veterinary pathology at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine and executive director of the Canadian Co-operative Wildlife Health Centre, will discuss "Veterinary Medi-

cine for a World in Crisis" at 2:30 p.m. in Room 1714 of the Lifetime Learning Centre.

Leighton's work focuses on pathology, ecology, epidemiology and surveillance of diseases in wild animals and understanding the environmental and socio-economic issues affecting wildlife conservation, agriculture and public health.

OVC established the Schofield

Lecture in 1970 to commemorate Francis Schofield, a renowned veterinary pathologist who taught at the college from 1921 to 1955. Internationally respected for his work in animal diseases, he was also revered in Korea for his missionary work during that country's occupation by Imperial Japan. Following his death in 1970, he was buried in the Seoul National Cemetery.

Top Culinary Authors Named

U OF G and Cuisine Canada recognized the range and expertise of Canadian cookbook authors, publishers and food culture by hosting and sponsoring the ninth annual Canadian Culinary Book Contest in Winnipeg Sept. 16.

The winning cookbooks will enter U of G's culinary archives — the most complete collection of Canadian cookbooks in the world.

Janice Wong won top honours in the Canadian food culture English-language category for *Chow: From China to Canada: Memories of Food and Family*, a collection of more than 50 simple family-fare dishes. First prize in the French-language Canadian food culture contest went to Anton Fercher for *Chapeau! Canada: les grands chefs*.

Winners of the top English-language cookbook award were Michael and Anna Olson for *Anna and*

Michael Olson Cook at Home: Recipes for Every Day and Every Occasion. The French-language award went to Jocelyna Dubuc, Pierre Cornélis and Stéphane Triballi for *Le Spa Eastman à votre table*.

Pam Freir's *Laughing With My Mouth Full: Tales From a Gulf Islands Kitchen* and François Chartier's *À table avec François Chartier* took gold

for the English and French awards in the special-interest food and beverage book category.

The book awards are supported by the Beef Information Centre, Fairmont Hotels and Resorts, Hain Celestial Canada, Harbinger Communications, Inniskillin, Liaison College and the Chicken Farmers of Canada.

Project Serve Reaches Out

MORE THAN 400 U of G students, faculty and staff will head into the community Sept. 30 to volunteer at some 30 local agencies as part of the University's ninth annual Project Serve day, which is designed to introduce students to community involvement and volunteerism.

Working in teams of five to 15, Project Serve participants will spend a half day doing various jobs from environmental cleanup to sorting food at non-profit agencies. Participating agencies include the Guelph Food Bank, Ignatius Jesuit Centre, Meals on Wheels and Women in Crisis.

at GUELPH

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CME PLANS OFFICIAL LAUNCH

The College of Management and Economics (CME) will be officially launched Oct. 25 at 5 p.m. in Peter Clark Hall. Hosted by CME dean Chris McKenna and president Alastair Summerlee, the event will include a reception from 4:30 to 6 p.m. If you wish to attend, RSVP by Oct. 16 to www.alumni.uoguelph.ca/news.htm.

GENDER STUDIES SCHOLAR TO SPEAK ON PERSONS DAY

U of G's women's studies program is marking Persons Day Oct. 18 with a talk by Qiqi Shen, a professor of gender studies and director of foreign affairs and international co-operative programs at Dalian University in China. She will discuss "Rights to Education: The Perseverance of Female Students From Families of Poverty at Universities in China" at 5 p.m. at the Arboretum Centre. Tickets are \$35 (tax receipts available), \$10 for students. A reception will follow.

SKIP A MEAL FOR CHARITY

U of G's "Skip a Meal" campaign offered through Meal Exchange runs until Oct. 6. Students are asked to donate cash or meal points to support 17 local social service agencies. Meal Exchange is also accepting registrations for this year's "Trick or Eat" program slated for Oct. 31. For information, visit www.mealexchange.com.

UNIVERSITIES' FAIR SET

U of G and the University of Guelph-Humber will take part in the Ontario Universities' Fair Sept. 29 to Oct. 1 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Faculty, staff and students from both campuses will attend the event, which is expected to attract more than 80,000 prospective students and their families.

BIO TO HOST OCTOBER TALK

The Biodiversity Institute of Ontario is hosting a talk by Dan Janzen, a professor of conservation biology at the University of Pennsylvania, Oct. 16 at 5:30 p.m. in War Memorial Hall. He will discuss efforts to DNA bar code a large wild tropical biota in Costa Rica.

ARRESTS MADE ON CAMPUS

Campus police arrested a 23-year-old Guelph man at the McLaughlin Library Sept. 11 for theft under \$5,000, after a computer was stolen from the library. When searched, he was found to be in possession of break-in tools. On Sept. 22, campus police arrested a male visitor in South Residences for assaulting three female occupants.

WATER-MAIN REPLACEMENT PLANNED IN PARKING LOTS

During October, some water mains between Macdonald Institute and War Memorial Hall will be replaced. Most of the work will be done in parking lots P23 and P24, but some excavation across College Avenue and Macdonald Street will be required at some point, and vehicular traffic will be disrupted. Parking and vehicular traffic in the parking lots won't be affected.



Jane Alexander of Residence Life, left, volunteers her time to help co-ordinate United Way activities for campus co-chairs Fred Ramprashad, Irene Thompson and Barb Caswell. Alexander is one of more than 160 United Way campaign volunteers.

PHOTO BY MARY DICKIESON

UW Volunteers Ready to Roll

Continued from page 1

paign thermometer. The website will also post United Way events, raffles and contests, as well as winners in the traditional incentive draws for those who contribute through payroll deduction or pledge form.

Return pledge forms by Oct. 11 for the first incentive draw Oct. 12. Prizes have been donated by local businesses, University employees and departments. A final draw in December will once again award a weekend getaway prize donated by Goliger's Travel Plus.

In addition, Guelph students will be holding their annual United Way tuition lottery. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Anyone can win, but the prize must be awarded to a current student at U of G. The draw will be held Dec. 1.

OVC students got a jump on United Way fundraising when associate dean Peter Conlon challenged the four DVM classes to donate in exchange for the opportunity to shave his head. The class of '09 put up the most cash, and class president Jackie Parr did the shaving honours at a pizza lunch Sept. 22. In total, close to \$700 was raised.

Hospitality Services hosts the Sept. 28 kick-off barbecue, recruiting sponsorships to defray food costs. It runs from noon to 2 p.m. on Branson Plaza (rain location is Peter Clark Hall).

Other upcoming events include:

- The Graduate Students' Association will host a United Way pancake breakfast Oct. 4 from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Grad Lounge.

- The Central Animal Facility on McGilvray Street is holding a garage sale, barbecue and raffle Oct. 5 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- The Department of Athletics will donate \$1 for each ticket sold at the Oct. 7 Gryphon football game against Waterloo. It starts at 2 p.m. at Alumni Stadium.

- The colleges of Management and Economics and Social and Applied Human Sciences are teaming up for a chili lunch Nov. 6 at the Atrium Restaurant.

To list your group's United Way event on the website and in *At Guelph*, send the information to Mary Dickieson in Communications and Public Affairs at m.dickieson@exec.uoguelph.ca.

people

HISTORIAN RECOGNIZED

Retired history professor Gil Stelter received a 2006 Mayor's Award for his dedication to Guelph's architecture and culture and his passion for preserving the city's heritage.

GUELPH ANIMAL SCIENTISTS RECEIVE NATIONAL HONOURS

At the Canadian Society of Animal Science meetings in Halifax in August, Ermas Kebeab, a research associate in the Department of Animal and Poultry Science, received the Young Scientist Award, which recognizes the achievements of new members of the research community who have demonstrated excellence in animal science. At the same conference, APS graduate students Tim Caldwell and Yuri Montanholi placed second in the oral competition and third in the graduate poster competition, respectively.

INTEGRATING INFORMATION LITERACY FOCUS OF TALK

Jane Burpee, Justin Harrison and Lorna Rourke of the U of G Library presented a paper called "The Benefits of Buy-in: Integrating Information Literacy Into Each Year of an Academic Program" at the international LOEX of the West Conference in Hawaii.

KUDOS FOR FARM WRITERS

Kim Waalderbos, SPARK coordinator in the Office of Research, captured second place in the news release category at the Canadian Farm Writers' Federation's annual writing and broadcasting awards ceremony in Winnipeg. A silver award also went to agricultural communications students Kevin Hood, Christine Eisler and Kayla Duffield in the television news reporting category.

OVC WELCOMES NEW VTH HEAD

The Ontario Veterinary College will host a reception Oct. 4 for the new head of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Wayne Coveyduck. It begins at 3 p.m. in the Lifetime Learning Centre.

IN MEMORIAM

ALLAN AUSTIN

Retired English professor Allan Austin died July 15 at age 77. A graduate of Michigan State University and the University of Rochester, he was a faculty member at Guelph from 1965 to 1994. He is survived by his wife, Margaret; two children, Jeffrey and Pree; and two grandchildren.

PETER DRAGLA

Peter Dragla, a research technician at Ridgeway Campus, died Aug. 23 at age 62. He joined Ridgeway in 1997 and is survived by his wife, Stoianca, and a daughter, Carmen.

WILLIAM EVANS

Retired horticulture professor William Evans died Sept. 2 at the age of 85. A graduate of the University of Alberta and Reading University, he served overseas in the Second World War. He retired in 1985 and is survived by his wife, Ethel; three children, Glynnis, Mark and David; and four grandchildren.

Renowned Louisiana Chef Is Executive-in-Residence

Entrepreneur will share knowledge, experience with HTM students

BY REBECCA KENDALL

ATASTE OF LOUISIANA is on its way to U of G this month with the arrival of John Folse, an internationally acclaimed chef who has been named executive-in-residence in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM) for the fall semester. He will be on campus Oct. 10 to 12.

Folse has experienced international success over the past four decades by peppering the world with his culinary expertise and showcasing the indigenous cuisine of Louisiana.

He opened his first restaurant in 1978 and quickly gained fame for infusing the food, hospitality and culture of Louisiana into Chef John Folse and Company, a corporate

conglomerate that has opened restaurants in the United States, Japan, China, Hong Kong, France, the Soviet Union, England, Colombia and Taiwan.

The company has also branched into a number of other businesses, including events management and catering, bed and breakfasts, a book publishing firm, a food manufacturing plant, a radio talk show, a syndicated TV cooking series and a full-service digital recording studio.

Folse opened the first American restaurant on Soviet soil and was the first non-Italian chef to develop and cook a Vatican State dinner for Pope John Paul II. He has received a number of awards and accolades, including two honorary degrees and the naming of a culinary school in his

honour. The Chef John Folse Culinary Institute at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, La., opened in 1994.

While at Guelph, he will spend his time speaking to graduate and undergraduate classes and teaching.

"We're thrilled that he's coming to campus," says HTM professor Bob Harrington, a former dean of the Folse institute. "Chef John Folse brings a wealth of experience and knowledge about the hospitality industry and opportunities for our graduates in areas that they may not be aware of based on their studies in more traditional areas of the industry. He is a successful entrepreneur who has built a multi-million-dollar business in a variety of segments of the industry."

U of G's Masai Project Raises Funds for Africa

Campus community donning red-and-white bracelets to help fight AIDS, poverty in Africa

BY LORI BONA HUNT

CLAIRE ALEXANDER wants to see a red-and-white beaded bracelet on the wrist of every Guelph student, faculty and staff member. She wears several at a time herself.

Students Deanna Chin and Romesh Hettiarachchi have at least one on every day — no matter what outfits they're wearing to school.

President Alastair Summerlee wears a trio of them, even with business suits.

And James VanderBerg, a minister with the Multi-Faith Resource Team, has two sets of bracelets — one for home and one for work — and wears up to 10 at a time.

It's not a fashion statement. Rather, the bracelets are helping to raise both funds and awareness for the University's Masai Project: For Africa, for AIDS, for Hope.

U of G aims to raise \$100,000 within the University community, primarily by selling the bracelets for \$5 and by holding a fundraising dinner Oct. 12.

"We have about 20,000 people on campus," says Alexander, a special projects co-ordinator in the President's Office who serves on the Masai Project committee with Chin, VanderBerg, Summerlee and others. "So that's \$5 per person at the University — the cost of about two cups of coffee."

The bracelets are handmade by the Inina Craft Agency, a co-operative in Eshowe in KwaZulu-Natal. The co-op started as a poverty relief initiative, and its members are women who manufacture their products at home. It's supported by the Centre for Environment, Agriculture and Development based at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

"By donating \$5, you are supporting the fight against AIDS in Africa and helping to alleviate the poverty of women there," says Alexander. "The bracelets also help raise awareness for the project and are a visible way for members of our community to show their support."

Bracelets are available at the Information Desk in the University Centre and in the President's Office. They can also be purchased from committee members, another reason they wear them in multiples on their wrists.

"I've been surprised by how many I've sold simply by having them available," says VanderBerg.

The University's Masai Project is part of a larger community effort to raise \$1 million for an AIDS clinic in Lesotho, the epicentre of the AIDS epidemic in Africa. The Guelph-wide initiative is being spearheaded by local doctor Anne-Marie Zajdlík, who has said she was inspired by Stephen Lewis's challenge to join the fight against AIDS.

The million-dollar Guelph project is also being supported by the Masai Centre for Local, Regional and Global Health, which Zajdlík



Members of the Inina Craft Agency at work on the beaded bracelets.

founded. The centre provides care, education and research for people affected by AIDS and HIV patients in Guelph, Waterloo and Grey-Bruce counties.

"Anne-Marie's project is close to the hearts of the Guelph community," says Summerlee. "The University wants not only to acknowl-

edge her efforts and the ongoing work of the Masai Centre but also to actively participate. This is our opportunity to work towards a common goal, partner locally and make a difference where a difference is needed."

The Oct. 12 fundraising dinner for the Masai Project is called "Celebrate Africa" and

begins at 6 p.m. in Peter Clark Hall. Tickets are \$50 each, \$25 for students, and are available at the University Bookstore. The event will include an ethnic meal, African drumming and dancing, and a talk by Zajdlík.

VanderBerg, who was instrumental in starting the University's Masai Project, says he was inspired to get involved after hearing Zajdlík speak.

"She captured more than just my attention — she captured my imagination. Before we knew it, we were gathering campus partners with the President's Office, attempting to promote awareness and raise funds."

Various other groups and communities have committed their support to the project, he says, and student involvement continues to grow.

"The Masai Project on campus is of utmost importance for two reasons," he adds. "It's an opportunity to seek justice and an opportunity to build bridges among student groups, faculty associations, faith communities and the University administration and staff. But I continue to work on it each and every day because it's a matter of justice. Each and every person on the face of the Earth is of such value that we simply cannot sit by and watch the decimation of an entire continent by a single disease."

For her part, Chin says she's always been interested in the effort to combat the AIDS pandemic. A fourth-year biological sciences student, she became aware of the Masai Centre and its campaign through volunteering at the campus Wellness Centre.

"When the opportunity arose to help the cause from within the University, I immediately wanted to be involved," she says. "It was only natural that the Masai for Africa campaign include the involvement of an institution that reflects the core values of the city that surrounds it. It has become the responsibility of the University to bring awareness to our communities."

Hettiarachchi, a fourth-year political science student, agrees. "I am very excited about having a small part in a project that truly demonstrates the University of Guelph's commitment to its community and to internationalism."

He says he would like to see U of G surpass the \$100,000 fundraising goal.

Chin adds that the committee has been approached by numerous students who want to help with the project by volunteering, promoting awareness and fundraising.

"It delights me to see that so many Guelph students have taken advantage of this opportunity to help others," she says.

For more information about the Masai Project, contact VanderBerg at Ext. 52392 or javander@uoguelph.ca or visit the website www.uoguelph.ca/president/masai.

Workshop Focuses on AIDS

CHILDREN ORPHANED by HIV and AIDS were the subject of the inaugural Global Engagement Workshop held on campus Sept. 23. The student-led workshop brought together a team of about 70 students and faculty united in education, research and advocacy towards a common goal.

The workshop featured a keynote talk by Dr. Anne-Marie Zajdlík, one of the first doctors in Guelph to provide care to HIV/AIDS patients. She is also the founder and director of the Masai Centre for Local, Regional and Global Health.

The day included discussions led by students, professors and researchers on youth and HIV/AIDS, approaches to the AIDS orphans crisis, barriers to HIV/AIDS prevention, volunteer opportunities and the state of HIV/AIDS in Canada. Officials from World University Service of Canada also

participated.

"Our goal was to bring together a multidisciplinary team of scholars with great minds and a passion for international issues," says Prof. Alan Shepard, associate vice-president (academic), whose office sponsored the event.

The intent was to provide an exchange of information, skills, resources and knowledge that would allow participants to advance their collective responses towards finding solutions, he says. In addition, organizers hope the gathering will lead to more advocacy initiatives and to the building of partnerships among students, faculty and alumni.

"The Global Engagement Workshop will now be an annual U of G event," Shepard says. "It's rooted firmly in the vision that Guelph can be a leader in international inquiry, dialogue, action and accountability."

All Aboard the 'Tim Bus'

Building project takes landscape architecture faculty, students to camp project sponsored by Tim Hortons Children's Foundation

AGROUP OF 25 landscape architecture students and five of their professors will become stonemasons for a day to build the foundation for a dedication garden at a Tim Hortons children's camp near Brantford.

This week, a corporate bus will collect the group from U of G for an overnight excursion to Onondaga

Farms in St. George, one of five children's camps run in Canada by the Tim Hortons Children's Foundation. (A sixth camp is in Kentucky.)

The group will learn classic dry-stone wall techniques to build a wall and lay a 30-foot-wide patio. Eventually to be landscaped with trees and flowers, the site located near the camp entrance will serve as a

donor recognition area.

"The Tim Hortons Children's Foundation is one of the biggest charitable organizations for children in Canada," says Prof. Nate Perkins, School of Environmental Design and Rural Development (SED RD).

He will accompany the students along with Profs. Karen Landman, Sean Kelly, Maurice Ndlicher and

Lise Burcher.

Referring to the group of mostly undergraduate students expected to take part in the event Sept. 29 and 30, Perkins says: "The students are going to learn a little more beyond building a wall on this one. As professionals, we are expected to give something back."

SED RD faculty members have

designed plantings and landscape plans for Onondaga Farms, which opened in 2002. The 400-acre facility includes an eco-centre and observatory and attracts more than 500 disadvantaged resident campers and youth leadership participants each year for programs in environmental education, agriculture, astronomy, creative arts and recreation.

Paint the Cannon in Broad Daylight

MyPortico, U of G's new web portal, is more than a home page

BY MARY DICKIESON

PAINING THE CANNON has taken on a whole new meaning now that the University's long-awaited web portal is up and running. Tested over the summer and officially launched Sept. 1, MyPortico (as U of G's virtual doorway is called) is loaded with features that can make you more efficient, add some fun to your day and perhaps even surprise you.

Project manager Gerrit Bos of Computing and Communications Services (CCS) says a number of students and staff have already tried their hand at painting the site's virtual cannon. And if you don't have a steady hand, you can log in to vote for your favourite version of Old Jeremiah.

(I'm particularly fond of the batman motif at right, which was drawn by student David Racicot.)

Whatever the reason, log in at myportico.uoguelph.ca and have a look around. If you do, you may be surprised at how handy your online life could be, says Bos.

Everyone with a U of G central login account can use MyPortico. Type your password and you'll be greeted by pages of web resources pre-configured for you depending on whether you're a faculty member, staff member or student. If you'd like a different experience, you can create your own pages to customize MyPortico.

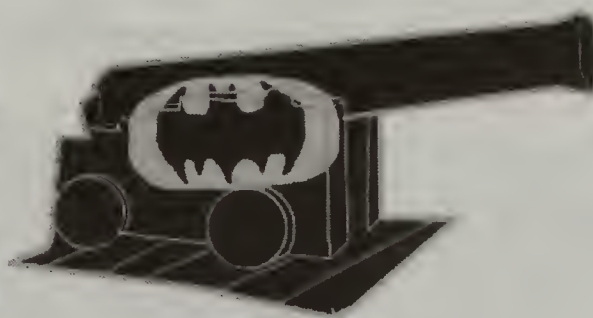
That's what a portal is all about, says Bos. "You can build an environment that suits your personal needs and preferences."

Prof. Susan Brown, English and Theatre Studies, is an early user of MyPortico. She chaired an arm's-length evaluation committee that concluded most people in the University community will use the portal regularly.

Brown's committee judged the most welcome feature of MyPortico to be the single sign-on access point for all U of G online resources. They predict that users, particularly new students, will also appreciate the personalized welcome to MyPortico, the opportunity to customize a portal login and the briefcase function that lets you save, share and access files more easily.

(There's no more need to e-mail a file to myself if I want to access it from off campus. I'll just save the file in MyPortico and open it again when I log in from home or anywhere else.)

It was the desire to engage students that led to the selection of MyPortico as the name for Guelph's portal. High school applicants will



begin their relationship with the University through MyPortico and will continue to use the portal throughout their studies and the transition to alumni status, when they will begin to receive *The Portico* alumni magazine.

The name "MyPortico" symbolizes the campus connection through the architectural portico sitting on Johnston Green, but it also speaks to the functionality of a web portal as a one-stop online information destination.

Master's student Emily Christofides, who worked on the MyPortico evaluation commit-

(Just don't try to use the back button, Emily. I forgot that the portal software doesn't respond to the back button and managed to log out before I was ready.)

In the committee report, Brown acknowledged that there are usability issues with the portal framework, but noted that many, like the back button, are inherent in the uPortal service that MyPortico is based on. It's an open-source web portal service developed by a consortium of universities that is currently used by 80 institutions worldwide.

"We want users to continue to tell us how MyPortico helps them with their work and what improvements would make it easier for them to accomplish the things they need to do online."

tee over the summer, says getting everything she needs through one URL makes her life much easier. She's also organized her portal page to put family connections up front, followed by a "Daily News" tab so she can check the *Globe and Mail* and BBC. Then comes her "Academics" tab with resources essential for her studies in marketing and consumer studies.

"I need to access WebCT and the library regularly," she says. "I use the briefcase a lot to share files; I get to WebCT and WebMail from there. I like the word of the day, and it's kind of fun to see who's painted the latest cannon."

Christofides says organizing favourite web links in MyPortico reduces clutter in her inbox, and one log-in lets her move quickly among all the school, extracurricular and family projects she juggles.

Bos notes that the uPortal framework is regularly enhanced with fixes and new features that can be included in future releases of MyPortico. "One of the benefits of an open-source framework is that enhancements we make here at Guelph can be contributed back to the uPortal community," he says.

Portals are becoming more prominent on university campuses because of the complex information environment, says chief information officer Michael Ridley, who spearheaded the development of Guelph's portal.

"Users need to engage all of that, whether it's courses online or registration or something from the library," he says. "With MyPortico, you don't have to know which website to go to and which part of the site a particular piece of information is located on. The portal pushes information to you that's relevant to you,

rather than you having to go find it."

The portal gives students access to several resources they didn't have previously, including the briefcase, a personal calendar that pops up reminders of meetings and classes and new ways to share information and chat with friends through online forums.

Not just students, but any group of MyPortico users can form a forum discussion group or use the portal to allow others to access their weblogs. MyPortico can already access blogs by Ridley and president Alastair Summerlee, as well as a variety of Canadian and international news services and campus news and events.

Ridley led the drive to develop a U of G portal with co-sponsorship from the U of G Library and CCS. Advisory, management, implementation and evaluation committees drew people from across campus, he says.

"We're proud of the content available in the first release of MyPortico and excited about its potential. Over time, MyPortico will offer an increasingly wide range of information resources and tools for faculty, staff, students and other members of the U of G community."

Bos says one of the most important links is the feedback button you can use to comment on the portal.

"This is very much an ongoing project," he says. "The information received over the summer has been really valuable, and much of it has already been incorporated into the first release, but we want users to continue to tell us how MyPortico helps them with their work and what improvements would make it easier for them to accomplish the things they need to do online."

(And some things you need to do offline. When I logged in to MyPortico, I discovered an outstanding library fine of \$1.50.)

The next year will be a time of intense development for MyPortico as improvements are made to functionality and as resource providers across campus upgrade their own websites, says Ridley.

"The key to the success of MyPortico rests with departments that provide the information on the University's website," he says.

MyPortico was developed by a portal management committee that included Bo Wandschneider and Peter McCaskell of CCS, Blair Capes of Student Housing Services, Brian Pettigrew of Registrarial Services, Andrew Phoenix of the Learning Commons, co-op student Alana Cordick, Brown and Stuart Robertson of Communications and Public Affairs.

OVC Celebrates Completion of Research, Lab Facilities

Institute for Animal-Human Links in Health Science Research builds on vet college's unique strengths

BY BARRY GUNN, OVC

THE ONTARIO Veterinary College will celebrate the completion of the final phase of the Institute for Animal-Human Links in Health Science Research Oct. 2 at 1 p.m. in the Lifetime Learning Centre. The program will include guest speakers and tours followed by a reception at 4 p.m.

Over the past five years, about \$27.5 million has been invested in the institute, says Prof. John Leatherland, the former chair of the Department of Biomedical Sciences who played a key role in steering the project from conception to

completion.

"The amount of translational biomedical research we're doing, and the quality of research we're doing, has stepped up enormously," he says. "And it's only just beginning."

The graduate program in the Department of Biomedical Sciences has grown by 25 per cent in the last year alone, largely due to the new facilities and equipment, says Leatherland.

"Now we can apply for research grants that we couldn't have in the past, to do work that we wouldn't have been able to do before."

The institute builds on the unique strengths of OVC, which already has

strong links with five Ontario medical schools. By studying naturally occurring diseases such as arthritis and cancer in a variety of animal species, scientists hope to develop more effective treatments and cures for the same illnesses in humans.

Facilities include two research laboratory complexes on the third floor and ground level of the main OVC building, a surgical-diagnostic lab linked to the magnetic resonance imaging unit and specialized animal-holding facilities.

The project was funded with grants of \$11 million each from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) and Ontario Innovation Trust

(OIT), with the balance invested by U of G and OVC's Pet Trust Fund.

Leatherland says U of G is now well-positioned to be on the leading edge of proteomics — the study of proteins at the molecular level — which, after sequencing the genome, is the next and probably more difficult phase of understanding cellular biochemistry and the mechanisms of disease.

He adds that the institute's Reproductive Biotechnology Lab is on the leading edge of stem cell research.

Guelph is also becoming a hub of neuroscience research under the leadership of Prof. Neil MacLusky, current chair of the Department of

Biomedical Sciences.

In addition, OVC and Pet Trust have embarked on a campaign to create a new cancer centre for animals, something that wouldn't have been possible without the foundation laid by the CFI and OIT grants, says OVC dean Elizabeth Stone.

"The facilities have been developed to improve the health of many species and will support the work of scientists in a variety of disciplines for years to come," she says. "We are grateful to all the funding partners who made this project possible. Their tremendous support is a tribute to the excellence of our faculty, staff and students."

The Dawson College I Know and Love

As a Dawson grad, I was touched by the solidarity shown by the University of Guelph

BY DIANE NALINI DE KERCKHOVE

I WAS BETWEEN TWO LECTURES when my mother called me from Montreal with the news of the shooting at Dawson College. My immediate concern was for my parents: they had been walking near the college at the time of the shooting. Thankfully, they had escaped the line of fire by a stroke of luck. Then it sank in that my beloved alma mater had been hit, and I thought of the many friends I have on faculty, staff and administration who may have been in danger.

On Sept. 20, a week after the violent and senseless shooting spree, the wider Dawson community held a ceremony of hope at St. James United Church in Montreal. I felt truly honoured to be asked to speak and sing at this event as an alumna. Before the ceremony, I visited the college, whose entrance was carpeted with so many bouquets of flowers that it rivalled the scene at Kensington Palace following the death of Diana, Princess of Wales.

I walked in the atrium, where the Montreal police had taken quick and decisive action with the shooter. The walls were lined with flowers, teddy bears and candles. Large message boards had been erected, with colourful pens dangling from strings so that students could scribble words of hope and courage: "We love you, Dawson." "Wounds will heal, but we will never forget." "Anastasia, you'll always be with us. Our angel of Dawson." "This will only make us stronger." These were just a few of the many hundreds of messages on display. In the centre of the atrium was a table with three large books, where people could write a message to express their gratitude to the Montreal police.

At lunchtime, the area was packed with students chatting and eating. The air was charged, but one could almost believe it was just another day here. Students and staff had reclaimed their college, and I felt proud of the way everyone was getting on with the business of living. This was just what I would have expected of the Dawson I know and love.

It was 1990 when I entered an honours science program called First Choice Science at Dawson. Finding myself able to choose my electives for the first time, I threw myself gleefully into art history, philosophy and Montreal literature. They provided a perfect balance for the meaty science courses I took. I soon discovered that we had been assigned the "crème de la crème" of Dawson's science teachers. To cite but one example, Grant Brown, a multiple award-winning math professor, inspired us with his endless patience, his enthusiasm for teaching and his willingness to answer any and all questions. This was truly a college of dedicated educators.

Dawson gave me the opportunity to spread my wings. In my first year, I became a DJ for CIXS, the college radio station. My weekly jazz program allowed me to share my lifelong passion for jazz with the community. I joined the Student Union when I was elected a student representative to the Senate. This was another eye-opening experience. Here I found a group of diligent and dedicated faculty, staff and administrators. Tensions sometimes ran high, as they often do among passionate individuals

with differing points of view, but at every meeting, views were expressed in articulate and reasoned ways. Everyone was allowed to speak. As a mere student, I had wondered if my voice would get heard. What a pleasant surprise it was for me that I was always given a chance to contribute to discussions and student voices were taken seriously.

It was at Dawson College that I found my two vocations in life. I chose to study physics mainly because of my admiration for Richard Shoemaker, one of my physics professors. He made the subject come alive, and its beautiful and logical elegance was laid out in all its glory. He taught us something I have tried to emulate as a teacher: always train students to anticipate what the outcome of a problem should be based on logic. Then make sure to show how the math backs it up. It was a wonderful way to develop "physical intuition."

"It's my hope that Dawson will recover quickly from this tragedy and will continue to be celebrated for its exceptional educational values, warm community spirit and truly wonderful extended family."

Dawson also gave me my first break as a professional jazz singer. At the ripe old age of 17, I was hired to sing at Oliver's Coffee House with my very own trio. I was over the moon when I was hired twice more over the course of that year. It gave me the confidence to apply to festivals, and I played the Montreal Jazz Festival just a couple of years later. Dawson literally set me on my musical journey. Three CDs later, I still write a thank you in my liner notes to Brenda Paris at Student Affairs for giving me my first gig.

When the time came to consider universities, I was shepherded through the often complicated scholarship application process by one of Dawson's wonderful academic advisers, Elaine Roy. I was so pleased to receive the Canadian Merit Scholarship, an award that covers tuition and board. The scholarship was only in its second year, and I would never have heard of it were it not for Elaine's knowledge of all things awards-related. She even put together an interview committee to give me some experience, so I wouldn't be too nervous when meeting the national selection committee.

Dawson's support didn't end when I graduated. Three years later, Elaine helped me prepare my application for the Rhodes Scholarship. I was delighted and honoured when Patrick Woodworth, Dawson's charismatic and visionary director general at the time, agreed to write me a letter of reference.

You know a place is special when you want to keep going

back to it. In the 14 years since I graduated from Dawson, not a year has gone by that I haven't gone back to the college to visit my former professors, advisers, student life co-ordinators, and the many administrators and staff I worked with on Senate and, more recently, on Board of Governors, where I served as a graduate representative. They welcome me back with open arms each time.

It shouldn't be difficult for anyone at the University of Guelph to imagine what a special place Dawson College is. The same magic seems to permeate the atmosphere in both places. I recall phoning my parents after my first week as a new faculty member at Guelph last year. I felt I had made the right decision in taking a post here. "This is going to be a great place to work," I told them. "It's got a Dawson vibe."

What do I mean by "Dawson vibe"? I mean a place that strives to support students in every way imaginable: good teaching and caring professors, a vibrant student body that supports and nurtures its members, a strong team of staff dedicated to improving both the body and mind of their community, administrators who genuinely have a vision and seem to view their work as a vocation rather than simply as a duty.

Dawson has all of this, and I see this magic at every turn here at Guelph. It was in the warm welcome and friendly guidance I received from my chair and colleagues when I joined the Department of Physics. It's in the army of blue-clad student volunteers who rescue new students from the often confusing turmoil of a first week away from home. It's in the enthusiasm of the staff at Teaching Support Services as they help new faculty and sessionals through the many twists and turns of starting a university career. It's also in the smile and good cheer of the women who sell me my pasta lunch at Centre Six. Truly, a magical community becomes even more than the sum of its parts.

As a Dawson grad, I was touched by the solidarity shown by the University of Guelph in the president's message of sympathy and the lowering of campus flags to half-mast to mark the death of Anastasia De Sousa and out of respect for all those injured.

As Dawson moves on, its students marching together in solidarity to return to classes and reclaim their college last Monday, I notice that we, too, are moving on. I am relieved to see that students at Guelph have bounced back from an event that has shaken the whole country and academic institutions in particular.

Many papers have been referring to the Dawson incident as "Canada's Columbine." But it's my hope that Dawson will recover quickly from this tragedy and will continue to be celebrated for its exceptional educational values, warm community spirit and truly wonderful extended family. It always was — and will continue to be — a magical place.

Prof. Diane Nalini de Kerckhove is a faculty member in the Department of Physics.

Duo Selected for International Art Show in Brazil

Fastwürms one of only three Canadian groups chosen to showcase their work

BY RACHELLE COOPER

TWO FINE ART FACULTY members have been selected to participate in the 27th São Paulo Art Biennial in Brazil Oct. 7 to Dec. 17. Profs. Kim Kozzi and Dai Skuse, who make up the art duo Fastwürms and share a joint appointment at U of G, will depart for Brazil Oct. 2.

Their participation in the São Paulo Biennial "means we have been recognized as important and distinguished avatars in the international/post-national cultural misce-

nation movement," says Kozzi.

The biennial is a cultural event that's been held every two years since 1951. Almost one million people visited the 26th biennial in 2004.

Fastwürms is one of three Canadian groups chosen to showcase their work at this year's event. In total, 118 international artists will participate.

The art duo works in photography, film, sculpture, performance and installation art. In their Guelph classroom, they incorporate sound, video, images and performance, mixing

art and popular culture.

In São Paulo, Fastwürms will be exhibiting *Telepathacats* (2003), *Soylent Orange* (2002) and *Red of Tooth and Claw* (2001).

Some of the duo's permanent work can be seen at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Their 1997 *Turtle Pond* features 7,500 square feet of terrazzo floor design in the south-wing entrance lobby. They have two nine-foot-high bronze *Snowm'n* outside the centre, as well as two fibreglass woodpecker sculptures — a 16-foot-long pileated and a nine-foot-long sapsucker — on a 100-foot-high column.

"If you drive by on the Gardiner Expressway, you can see it at night," says Skuse. "All the woodpecker holes are illuminated from inside."

In 1990, the Ontario government commissioned them to do an exhibition called "Ground to Ground" for the Garden and Greenery Expo in Osaka, Japan.

Here at home, members of the Guelph community are familiar with the Fastwürms' EX OVO OMNIA, the large white spherical sculpture outside the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre that was unveiled in September 2000.

Taking Ovarian Cancer Out of the Closet

OVC pathologist speaks out loud about 'whispering disease'

BY LORI BONA HUNT

THERE WAS A TIME when September signified the beginning of a new school year for Katie Welch. Her thoughts would turn to getting her three daughters ready to go back to class and to preparing for a busy fall semester at OVC, where she's worked as a diagnostic pathologist for more than 20 years.

But that was before.

September has taken on new meaning for Welch. Now and forever, it will represent only one thing: National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

The month stands as a symbol of the disease Welch has battled — and hopefully conquered — over the past 18 months. It reminds her that, despite everything, she's been luckier than most. It also reminds her how much research still needs to be done on ovarian cancer and bolsters her determination to spare other women the experience she's been through.

But above all, September reminds her that life is a gift.

"You really do appreciate every single day more," she says. "You wake up and think: 'Hey, I'm alive today and I might not have been.' I know it sounds trite to say that, but it's really true. It also makes you want to do something to make people more aware of this disease. I need to do something. I have three daughters, and I'm hugely concerned about them."

Welch has taken on an active role in educating people about ovarian cancer, the "whispering disease" that afflicts some 2,300 Canadian women annually. It's among the most lethal of gynecologic cancers, largely because its symptoms — including fatigue, abdominal bloating, changes in bowel habits, changes in periods and frequent urination — are so ambiguous that they're often ignored. And there are no tests to aid in early detection.

"In terms of awareness, ovarian cancer is still sort of in the closet — it's where breast cancer was about 25 years ago," she says. "Most cases are diagnosed too late. People don't pick up on it until the cancer is pretty far advanced, which is why survival rates are so poor."

Yes, she had some of the symptoms, but what woman doesn't at some point?

"Cancer was the furthest thing from my mind. Of anyone, you'd think I'd know — I'm a pathologist! But it never occurred to me. This experience has taught me how little is known about this disease. Now I want to make sure more women are aware."

Welch is involved in several volunteer initiatives run by Canada's National Ovarian Cancer Association (NOCA), including its Listen to the Whisper program. Through this program, survivors speak to community groups, educating women about the disease and urging them to pay attention to their bodies and to be aggressive in seeking medical treatment.

She will also be speaking to medical students about awareness and the importance of listening to women who report symptoms that may not seem harmful.

And earlier this month, she participated in NOCA's annual Winners' Walk of Hope in Toronto, raising more than \$13,000 with her team. Her squad included her three daughters, aged 14, 16 and 18; her mother and two sisters; some nieces; a brother-in-law; close friends; and her husband, Prof. Steve Kruth, Clinical Studies. (She and Kruth met at the University of California at Davis, where she was completing an internship after graduating from Saskatoon's Western College of Veterinary Medicine. They moved to Guelph in 1985 and both started working at OVC.)

Being surrounded on the walk by loved ones, women who are fighting ovarian cancer and the loved ones of women who



lost their battles was inspiring, empowering and saddening, says Welch.

"My situation was nothing compared with what a lot of women go through. Some endure six or seven rounds of chemotherapy. In retrospect, I landed on my feet so well. Everything was done the way it was supposed to."

Of course, she felt differently in April 2005 when she was first diagnosed.

"I was a tough-it-out person and didn't think anything was really wrong, so I waited until my pain was pretty intense before I went to a physician."

Her doctor listened (she discovered later that isn't always the case). She was referred to an OB-GYN, had an ultrasound that revealed a large mass, met with a gynecological oncologist (a key to correct diagnosis and treatment, she says) and had surgery — all in the course of a week. Things don't move so quickly or go so smoothly for most women, she says.

"In terms of awareness, ovarian cancer is still sort of in the closet — it's where breast cancer was about 25 years ago."

The diagnosis was Stage 2-C, meaning the cancer had spread beyond the ovaries. In Welch's case, tumours were found in both ovaries, the uterus, the lower abdomen and a bladder ligament.

Remember, she's a pathologist. "There's a downside to knowing too much," she says. "I look at tumours under the microscope all the time. I kept thinking: 'I've got one of those inside of me.' I knew what it meant when they said it had spread, and it added insult to injury."

Welch underwent a complete hysterectomy and removal of the ovaries and affected tissue, along with lymph nodes and other tissues for pathological testing.

"It's important not just to remove the tumours themselves but also to collect samples from other tissues to see if there's evidence of metastasis," she says. "That's why it's so vital to have a gynecological oncologist perform the surgery."

The extent of involvement allows the cancer to be staged, and the tumours themselves are assigned a grade, indicating the potential severity of the cancer. Welch decided she didn't care to know the grade.

"I was already lying in bed thinking about all the cancer cells embedded in me. So I didn't ask. I knew my brain wouldn't be able to let go of it."

She started chemotherapy almost immediately in Hamilton. Six cycles, spaced three weeks apart — just enough time for her white blood cells to recover a bit before being bombarded again. The chemotherapy made her sick, and she lost 20 pounds from her already tiny frame. Her hair fell out, too.

Welch thought she was ready for it. Before she started chemo, she even had an extra-close haircut. "I asked the hairdresser to shave it all off, but she was hesitant to do that."

Even so, having her hair come out in clumps was a shock. "You don't just lose the hair on your head; you also lose eyebrows, eyelashes, everything. You look alien, and it marks you to yourself. You think: 'Wow, I really am a cancer patient.'"

Welch was soon back at work, wearing a kerchief on her head. She holds appointments with

both the Canadian Co-operative Wildlife Health Centre and the Animal Health Laboratory.

"It was easier for me to come to work. I needed to do something, anything other than sitting at home saying: 'I have cancer.'"

When she was really sick, she'd simply stay out of the necropsy room. "There are some nasty pathogens in there, and when you don't have any white blood cells, you are at risk."

Welch says her colleagues were "wonderfully supportive," working around her chemo and "health" schedule. She tears up when recalling the outpouring of support she and her family received.

"I was overwhelmed. The days I was in Hamilton, people at the vet school organized baving meals delivered to our home."

Still, there's a stigma attached to having cancer, and it makes people fearful, she says. "People avoid you. I think it's because they don't know what to say, they're afraid, and it can be distressing."

So during her speaking engagements, an additional message she delivers is: "Don't be afraid of people with cancer." Talk to them about their disease, treatment and recovery. "When you have cancer, you feel isolated enough."

Welch finished chemotherapy last summer and is stronger now, both physically and mentally. She hasn't had a cancer recurrence in a year. Her hair has grown back (although she kept it short), and she has eyelashes and eyebrows again.

Time is truly a healer, for both the body and soul, she says.

"When I think back on my experience, I realize it was pretty brutal. But it's easier for me to talk about it now because it's behind me. I also don't obsess about having cancer anymore. There are days when it's completely out of my mind. I don't waste the time I have worrying about it."

Because her cancer was diagnosed at Stage 2, Welch says her odds are better than most — she has a 70-per-cent chance of surviving five years.

"Most women aren't diagnosed until Stage 3 or 4, and by then, the odds are much lower. I feel incredibly fortunate. Survival depends on early detection, which is why the word needs to get out about the importance of being aware. I want to do anything I can to help."

Welch is also pushing for more research, especially the development of tests that will aid in early detection, and better treatment methods.

"I hope that 20 or 30 years from now, we can look back and say: 'What a barbaric way we used to treat cancer.'"

Maybe that's what she'll be thinking about in September 2026.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWABE

2006 PRESIDENT'S & CHA

U of G recognizes 14 student leaders whose intellectual a

The Lincoln Alexander Chancellor's Scholarships and the President's Scholarships are presented annually to students of academic distinction who have made significant contributions to their schools and their communities and demonstrate the potential to become leaders in society.

The President's Scholarships are the University's most prestigious entrance awards. Established in 1988, the program has provided financial support and academic guidance to 218 students, including the 11 who are recognized here.

The Chancellor's Scholarships were established in 2002 to honour U of G Chancellor Lincoln Alexander on his 80th birthday. They are awarded to students who are aboriginal, persons with a disability or members of a racial minority, and are intended to enhance student diversity at U of G.

A faculty mentor in each scholar's discipline of study serves as an academic adviser and career counsellor throughout the student's undergraduate program. As they advance through their degree programs, the scholarship recipients often become mentors themselves or peer helpers who help younger students in particularly difficult courses.

The scholarship program provides regular staff support to encourage scholars to develop their potential as student leaders and to provide information about international study, advanced degrees and other opportunities. Invariably, these students form a strong social network that for some may be the most memorable part of the program.

Recipients of both the Chancellor's and President's Scholarships were honoured Sept. 6 at a luncheon hosted by president Alastair Summerlee and Alexander. The event also recognized the contributions of faculty mentors and major donors to the scholarship program.

Lincoln Alexander Chancellor's Scholars

Edith Lai

**Cardinal Carter
Academy for the Arts
Willowdale**

Edith has displayed exceptional academic ability, musical talent and leadership skills. She received top marks in numerous courses at Cardinal Carter Academy and performed on piano and flute in both school and community venues. She has also excelled as an athlete, writer, peer helper, tutor and organizer of extracurricular activities. She led and trained performance troupes and co-ordinated several children's camps and festivals for her church community.

Faculty Mentor: Prof. Kathy Brophy, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition



Chandrika Sadanand

**John F. Ross Collegiate
Vocational Institute
Guelph**

Chandrika has been planning for a career as an environmental engineer since elementary school. She represented her high school in national chemistry and mathematics competitions and the Shad Valley program. She helped launch the



nationwide push to host Engineers Without Borders in high schools and led the first Guelph chapter in her school. Called Youth Unbound, the group promoted the understanding of world issues. Her charitable work includes organizing flu shots for the homeless and volunteering at the Guelph Food Bank.

Faculty Mentor: Prof. Lori Jones, Department of Chemistry

Sasha Sky

**Sir Winston Churchill
Collegiate Vocational
Institute, Thunder Bay**

Sasha is a scholar who is thoroughly committed to community work in support of education, social inclusion and multiculturalism. She teaches young children and works to prevent alcohol and drug abuse among aboriginal youth. She has worked with teachers, school boards and parents to help integrate aboriginal students into the school system. Her work as president of the Regional Multicultural Youth Council recently earned her the council's Ontario Volunteer Award for 2006.

Faculty Mentor: Prof. Donna Lero, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition



President's Scholars

Zoë Barrett- Wood

**Grey Highlands
Secondary School
Flesherton**

Zoë is an exceptional student who maintains high academic achievement while helping in a family business and participating in numerous school clubs and volunteer activities. She started a recycling program at her school and organized community events to raise environmental awareness and promote volunteer opportunities for youth. Zoë also started her own business while in high school and used some of the money earned to travel to Costa Rica, where she worked as an eco-volunteer.

Faculty Mentor: Prof. Isabel Heathcote, Engineering, dean of graduate studies



Marena Brinkhurst

**Halifax Grammar School
Halifax**

Marena has earned numerous academic and leadership awards, including a Nova Scotia Lieutenant-Governor's Medal and the right to represent her school at a national Model United Nations symposium. She was co-director of her school's Free the Children chapter and three-time organizer of its annual Global Awareness Conference. She launched the school's environmental club, participated several times in the National Youth Round Table on the Environment, and worked as a volunteer at a wildlife rehabilitation centre. In addition, she edited a literary magazine and volunteered with Habitat for Humanity in El Salvador.

Faculty Mentor: Prof. Nate Perkins, Environmental Design and Rural Development



President Alastair Summerlee and chancellor Lincoln Alexander, centre, pose with the

Kim Cai

**Centennial Collegiate
Guelph**

Kim has been a dominant force among Ontario students in the realm of science: two award-winning research projects in the Aventus Biotech Challenge, top honours three years running in the London Science Olympics, and representing Canadian students at an International Brain Bee in the United States. Yet she is a well-rounded student who has also excelled in music and sport and as a writer, teacher and volunteer with various school projects and philanthropic organizations.

Faculty Mentor: Prof. Lucy Mutharia, Molecular and Cellular Biology



Kyla Cochrane

**Saltfleet District High
School, Stoney Creek**

Kyla is respected by both teachers and peers for her academic abilities and her high standards in the classroom. She served as president of student council, earned lead roles in productions and helped her school provincial science and environmental teams and volunteered outside of theatre and arts groups, a youth theatre and arts groups, a youth theatre and arts groups, a youth theatre and arts groups.

Faculty Mentor: Prof. Reggie L. Cellular Biology

President's Scholars

The President's Scholarships acknowledge student achievement, but also honour these distinguished University leaders and supporters whose vision and generosity helped launch this annual awards program.

Richard "Dick" Brown

A President's Scholarship funded by Patrick Lett, B.Sc. '71 and M.Sc. '75, honours the leadership qualities demonstrated by the late Dick Brown, football coach and athletics staff member from 1968 to 1988.

Cecil H. Franklin and Ingrid Franklin

Cecil Franklin, H.D.Sc. '88, a former chair of Board of Governors, is recognized for his volunteer contributions to the University and for the financial support received from him and his wife, Ingrid.

Charles S. Humphrey

A gift from the estate of Charles H. president of Hart Chemical Company and a longtime friend of the University supported the President's Scholarships.

Jack R. Longstaffe

The President's Scholarship endowment enriched by a bequest from Jack Longstaffe, executive with Renfrew Electric Company, Toronto and a friend of the University.

Dr. Burton C. Matthews

A President's Scholarship honoree, Matthews, BSA '47, whose insight established the awards program and served as president of the University of Guelph from 1988.

CHANCELLOR'S SCHOLARS

tal ability and community spirit will enrich the campus



pose with the scholarship recipients.

PHOTOS BY GRANT W. MARTIN PHOTOGRAPHY

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Army.

Prof. Reggie Lo, Molecular and



Nathan Lachowsky

Holy Trinity Catholic High School, Simcoe
Nathan worked his way up from committee member to leading his school's student council, from player to captain and coach in basketball, from cook's helper to administrator of a children's summer camp program, from three-year-old participant to lead dancer in a Ukrainian dance ensemble, from member to lead trombone in the school concert band, and from school board representative to president of the Ontario Student Trustees' Association.
Faculty Mentor: Prof. Andrew Bendall, Molecular and Cellular Biology



Mitchell Moffitt

Bishop Macdonell C.H.S. Guelph

Mitch has earned a reputation in his community as a quiet leader whose intellect and musical talents enable him to excel in theatre, music, community service, sports and academic pursuits. He has performed lead roles in several high school productions and with community and professional theatre companies. He is an accomplished pianist who also performs in a rock band. Mitch played varsity tennis in high school, edited the school newspaper and was active in the social justice club. He also volunteered with the Guelph Food Bank and organized fundraisers to support a variety of causes.
Faculty Mentor: Prof. Tina Widowski, Animal and Poultry Science



Steven Sladkowski

Humberside Collegiate Institute, Toronto

Steven is an academic high achiever, but is probably better known to his peers as a musician, peer leader and athlete. He was a principal cellist in the school orchestra, a guitarist in the jazz band and first tenor in the men's choir, as well as president of student council, a columnist and photographer for the school yearbook and newspaper, and assistant captain of the varsity volleyball team. Outside of school, he plays in two bands and on the hall diamond for an AA-level club team in Toronto. Steven has also worked for several charitable organizations, including the Free the Children Foundation and Toronto's Daily Bread Food Bank.
Faculty Mentor: Prof. Ellen Waterman, Fine Art and Music



Jeff Muirhead

Bluevale Collegiate Institute, Waterloo

Jeff was a star athlete throughout his high school career and an honour roll student with an aptitude for mathematics. He played varsity soccer, volleyball and hockey; captained two of those teams; and led the Bluevale Knights volleyball team to its best finish in 20 years. He also served as co-president of the school's athletic council, was a member of student council and chaired an entertainment committee for a cancer fundraiser that collected more than \$84,000. Jeff gives back to his community as a referee for minor soccer and hockey; he has also coached minor hockey teams for the past two years.
Faculty Mentor: Prof. Bill Van Heyst, Engineering



Eric Traficante

Sir James Dunn Collegiate and Vocational School, Sault Ste. Marie

Eric has received first-place ranking in several science fairs at the local and regional levels, earned the highest cumulative average in his class and was selected to attend the Shad Valley program, where his team was chosen for the national competition. He also represented his school in national chemistry, physics, math and computer science competitions. Eric designs websites, earned a national award as editor of the school yearbook and established a program to educate students about tobacco use. He is also a varsity athlete and a talented musician who performs with the school band and in local concerts and festivals.
Faculty Mentor: Prof. Jeff Thomason, Biomedical Sciences



Allyson Parker

Cobourg District Collegiate Institute East Cobourg

Allyson's academic awards include one for the most promising biology student in her school. That's almost an understatement for Allyson, who has already amassed considerable experience in ornithology. She began birdwatching at age eight and, since then, has trained in bird banding and waterfowl identification as a volunteer with naturalist groups and bird observatories in Ontario. In 2003, she was chosen to attend the Young Ornithologist's Workshop at the Long Point Bird Observatory. The following year, she completed the Young Ornithologist Internship. In 2005, she spent two weeks in Antarctica as the only high school student in Canada chosen to participate in Canadian Geographic's Polar Bound contest.
Faculty Mentor: Prof. Pat Wright, Integrative Biology



Kyly Whitfield

Centennial Secondary School, Belleville

Kyly ranked as one of the top students in her class throughout high school, but she says her most important accomplishment was organizing a community volunteer fair that brought students together with local agencies to make volunteering more accessible. A four-year volunteer with the Kids Help Phone, Kyly has organized fundraisers for international relief funds, local organizations and a firefighter's hike ride across Canada to support cancer research. She served several years on student council, including a stint as president, played on the volleyball team, performed in the concert band and edited a newsletter.
Faculty Mentor: Prof. Doug Larson, Integrative Biology



Scholarship Honourees

Humphrey

te of Charles Humphrey, a former Chemical Company Canada Ltd. friend of the University, has ment's Scholarship program.

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scholarship endowment fund was est from Jack Longstaffe, a retired few Electric Company Limited in d of the University of Guelph.

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Frederick Metcalf and Kathleen Metcalf

The late Kathleen and Fred Metcalf were strong supporters of the University and endowed a President's Scholarship. Fred Metcalf was a board member of the University's Heritage Trust and enjoyed a distinguished career in broadcasting as president of Maclean Hunter Ltd.

Rol-land Farms Limited

President's Scholarships endowed by the shareholders of Rol-land Farms Limited of Blenheim recognize the friendship and generous support of Hank, B.Sc.(Agr.) '65; Peter; Arthur; and Eric, ADA '93, Vander Pol and their families.

Lillian Stewart Usher

A gift received in 1990 from the estate of Lillian Stewart Usher was designated to support the President's Scholarship program.

President's and Chancellor's Scholars are nominated by their secondary school principals. The application deadline is March 1. An information package about the nomination process, along with a nomination form, will be sent to all Canadian high schools this fall for fall 2007 applicants. Additional information is available from the associate registrar, Student Financial Services, at Ext. 56032, or by visiting the U of G website at www.uoguelph.ca.

A Place to Live, a Place to Grow

BY REBECCA KENDALL

AFTER LIVING on university campuses in Guelph and Ottawa for seven years, Jerome Chang hasn't had quite enough of residence life yet. In fact, it's the perfect place for Chang, who graduated from U of G in 2000 and returned in 2003 to take on the role of residence program co-ordinator.

Chang grew up in Thunder Bay and Orangeville before coming to Guelph to study music and drama. As a student, he lived in residence for two years before becoming a three-year member of residence life staff. After graduation, he worked as a senior resident and residence education co-ordinator at Carleton University for two years.

Wanting to move beyond the "campus bubble," he joined Starbucks, where he had a chance to open and run the company's first franchise in Banff, Alta. But he soon realized the corporate world wasn't the place for him.

Chang transferred with the company to Toronto, where he began working as a youth worker at a community centre, while continuing his job with Starbucks. "I felt like I had more to offer the world than just a really good cup of coffee," he says. He returned to U of G shortly after.

As residence program co-ordinator, Chang is responsible for managing the Living Learning Centres (LLCs) — Eco-House, Artz Hubs, French House and International House — theme residences designed to offer students a specialized on-campus living experience. He also manages the programming office and supervises five residence programming assistants.

Located in Maritime Hall, the programming office is where seeds are planted for much of the social and educational programming designed for students living in resi-



Jerome Chang says residence is a place where students' lives, opinions and world views can change in remarkable ways.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

dence. Peace cranes hang from the ceiling, and the walls are covered with various images promoting unity and diversity.

"Diversity is a big part of my life," says Chang, who also does motivational speaking and diversity workshops for campus groups and colleges and universities around the province.

"There are lots of different things that affect who we are, and the best part of this job is meeting people and really getting to know them, understanding how our differences can complement one another and figuring out how it all fits together."

His shelving units are filled with art supplies, videos, DVDs and books — some of the tools he uses to take diversity and awareness from being mere buzzwords to becoming concepts that generate open dialogue. A large whiteboard on the wall is filled with notes from recent

brainstorming sessions that Chang and his staff have used to come up with new ideas for programming related to everything from spirituality and health and wellness to global awareness, citizenship and career planning.

Sometimes programming can be a great way to address issues like substance abuse or sexuality in a non-confrontational or in-your-face way," says Chang, adding that posters and interactive displays play an important role in educational programming. "They can address issues in a unique way. The message is soft and unobtrusive, but it's still there and people learn from it."

Programming can also be done in more obvious and direct ways, he says, noting that the residences often host movie nights and bring in guests to speak about a wide variety of social, political and environmental issues.

"The speakers discuss things the students are interested in. It's supplementing inside class learning with outside classroom education. We want to take the things students are learning and bring them into a real-world context, so it's not just memorization of facts."

Chang also works closely with LLC staff, and his shelving units display several examples of applications that students have submitted in hopes of being selected to live in one of the University's four theme residences.

"I encourage them to think outside the box and use their creativity to express their interest in whatever house setting appeals to them," he says. "In response, I get a whole lot of amazing things."

Like the black boot covered with answers to the application questions printed in multicoloured ink. Or the booklet made from homemade recycled paper derived from water, glue

and pages of a U of G admissions handbook.

"These things tell me the applicant is willing to really go the extra mile to stand out, and that he or she is really committed to living in this kind of community."

An important part of the residence experience is getting involved with the wider community and identifying areas where students can make a difference, says Chang, noting that students in residence are involved in a range of charity fundraisers. These include Rez Rumble, a hockey game that pits students against residence life staff; the vertical march, an event that sees students walking every flight of stairs in seven residences on campus; and Dressing for Dollars, which has students pledging money to dress up their residence life manager anyway they choose.

"We've had staff dressed up in wigs and makeup and sports equipment, and they have to go to class and spend the day in costume," says Chang.

Last year, Dressing for Dollars raised more than \$4,000 for the United Way and Change Now, a Guelph agency that works with homeless and at-risk youth. In 2005/2006, residence life staff and students in residence raised nearly \$40,000 for organizations such as the Wild Bird Clinic, the Canadian Red Cross, the Masai Clinic and World Vision. They also supported local families in Guelph and Wellington County through the Adopt-a-Family program.

"Residence is a place where people live, but at Guelph it's also a place where lives, opinions and world views can change in remarkable ways," says Chang. "University is an important time for people, and I want to help them make the most out of their time spent here."

New Leave for Change Program Offers Opportunity to Volunteer Overseas

U of G is first Canadian university to support new initiative

STARTING THIS FALL, regular full-time staff and faculty at Guelph will have an opportunity to volunteer their knowledge and skills overseas during short assignments in developing countries.

The University is piloting its involvement in a new program called Leave for Change, which is being offered through Unitera, a joint initiative of World University Service of

Canada (WUSC) and the Centre for International Studies and Co-operation. Unitera mobilizes people and organizations in Canada and the developing world to reduce poverty by achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals.

Under the Leave for Change program, Canadian volunteers are assigned overseas for two to three weeks. This allows a limited number

of qualified employees from participating organizations to transform their holidays into short international assignments with well-defined tasks and the support of development professionals in the host country, says Martha Harley, assistant vice-president (human resources).

"They contribute their knowledge, technical skills and know-how to an international development project where Unitera volunteers are usually involved," she says. "Through contributions made by the University, employees selected by Unitera for the program receive pre-departure training, insurance coverage, vaccinations, airfare, lodging and daily stipends."

President Alastair Summerlee, incoming chair of WUSC's board of directors, says everyone benefits

from Leave for Change.

"Canadian organizations act as good corporate citizens locally and internationally," he says. "The employees who participate gain new skills and awareness while having an amazing personal and professional experience. Employers and employees support a worthy humanitarian cause and express their social concern at an international level. And partner organizations in developing countries acquire more valuable skills and know-how. We can all take great pride in knowing that Guelph is the first Canadian university to offer support for this exciting new initiative."

Human Resources will soon be sending out information about Leave for Change to regular full-time staff and faculty and inviting appli-

cations for a limited number of overseas opportunities that reflect Unitera's current needs, says Harley. A public information session has also been planned for Oct. 26 from noon to 1:15 p.m. in Room 103 of the University Centre.

Unitera will screen all applications for suitable matches with posted vacancies, interview short-listed candidates and choose participants. Employees selected must attend a weekend-long orientation session in Montreal before leaving for their volunteer assignment in the 2007 winter semester. When they return to Guelph, they will be asked to share their experiences informally with others.

For more information about Leave for Change, call Human Resources at Ext. 53374.

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First Nations to Benefit From Training Partnership

Six years after Walkerton, only half of water, waste-water treatment operators meet provincial standards

BY ANDREW VOWLES

ENSURING SAFE drinking water and proper waste-water treatment in Ontario's First Nations is the goal of a novel training partnership involving U of G and its Campus d'Alfred.

Through U of G's Ontario Rural Wastewater Centre (ORWC), staff and faculty in the School of Engineering and at Alfred are developing curriculum along with the Toronto-based Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corp. (OFNTSC) to train water and waste-water treatment operators in First Nations communities across the province.

Beginning in spring 2007, courses will be delivered by the OFNTSC through a mix of travelling trainers and longer sessions to be held at central locations, says Chris Kinsley, ORWC manager and senior researcher at Alfred. He also hopes to develop web-based materials to offer modules through distance education.

More than six years after the Walkerton tragedy, only about half of the people looking after water and waste-water treatment facilities in First Nations communities meet provincial certification standards. Although operators of First Nations treatment facilities are not provin-

cially regulated, project organizers hope many will be attracted to certification training.

"As many as 50 per cent of all water operators in 134 First Nations communities in Ontario are not certified," says Maurice Morin, a consultant in Mont Tremblant, Que., who has worked with Alfred staff to identify needs of prospective students and to develop funding proposals.

"That's an important issue because of water quality and how that's impacted in isolated communities like Kashechewan or smaller rural communities like Walkerton."

Last fall, about 1,100 people were evacuated from Kashechewan in northern Ontario after drinking water in the James Bay community was contaminated with *E. coli*. In 2000, water contamination caused partly by negligent operators in the town of Walkerton killed seven people and sickened thousands of others.

"We're trying to deal with the training and certification of the people who are operating these plants," explains Kinsley. "Having qualified, trained, competent operators is a critical component of the infrastructure. A large part of the problem is the lack of community capacity and resources to operate and maintain

the plants."

So far, the project has received almost \$300,000 from Human Resources and Social Development Canada through its National Literacy Program. Organizers hope to obtain additional funding from governments and agencies to develop and deliver a full suite of modules and distance education options.

The OFNTSC proposed a training partnership with the ORWC about two years ago. The latter centre has offered training for about eight years to people designing, running or inspecting residential and communal septic systems.

"We are very pleased to be working with the OFNTSC on this initiative and consider this to be the first step in developing a sustaining partnership between that organization and the University," says U of G engineering professor Doug Joy, ORWC director.

Kinsley believes this may be the only training program in Canada linking water and waste-water treatment operators in First Nations communities with a university-based applied research centre.

Besides Kinsley and Joy, the curriculum team consists of Alfred researcher Anna Crolla; OFNTSC

engineers Irving Leblanc, Derrick Kamanga and Mohammed Karim; and Katherine Rentsch, ORWC project co-ordinator in the School of Engineering.

The group has hired a consultant at the University of Saskatchewan to help incorporate First Nations cultural perspectives on water and water quality.

Kamanga says the OFNTSC has already contracted for training from private consultants. But he says the organization decided to seek additional resources when its own risk assessment following the Walkerton disaster revealed deficiencies in operation and design of treatment facilities.

"The University of Guelph is an established institution and has good

access to research and development," he says. "We need that aspect because of its well-established background to deal with rural communities and communities that aren't as advanced as urban communities."

U of G and Alfred researchers established the ORWC in 1998 to provide training and to conduct applied research in decentralized waste-water management.

"We're one of the lead research centres in the country in on-site waste-water treatment and disposal," says Rentsch, an environmental engineering graduate who consulted with First Nations before returning to Guelph a year ago.

OFNTSC provides advice and training in engineering and technical services to Ontario's First Nations.

U OF G WILL NOT TOLERATE HURTFUL ACTIONS

I am sad to report that on Sept. 15 two doors in a campus residence were painted with hate graffiti of a racist and homophobic nature.

The University of Guelph is a community committed to civility and mutual respect and, as such, will not tolerate such hurtful actions.

We ask anyone with information about this incident to please come forward and call Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or our campus police at Ext. 52245.

We must work together to ensure that the University's core beliefs and ideals prevail over closed-minded acts of intolerance.

President Alastair Summerlee

letters

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ANDREW KRAMER

Co-ordinator of science programs in Co-operative Education and Career Services since 1999

Andrew Kramer was busy entertaining incoming students during Orientation Week by taking to the stage and belting out classic rock tunes with his band, Bite of Vinyl. The group, which has been together for seven months, played three shows on campus during orientation. He is the band's lead singer and also plays a bit of harmonica.



Andrew Kramer

"I wouldn't call myself the world's greatest vocalist, but I lend my pipes to the cause," says Kramer, who's been performing for 20 years and practises with the band once a week. He's a former member of One Bad Tire, a Waterloo-based blues band, and has also performed jazz. "I appreciate many different styles of music."

Bite of Vinyl will be stepping into the studio in October to record its first demo, says Kramer, who notes that his classic rock heroes include Neil Young, the Tragically Hip and April Wine.

"I definitely like the old Canadian stuff. It's unique and it's different from American or British rock."

BRENDA COOMBER

Faculty member in the Department of Biomedical Sciences since 1990

On campus, Prof. Brenda Coomber is known for her work in cancer biology, but at home, she's known for her prowess in the kitchen.

"I love to cook," says Coomber, who especially enjoys making preserves. "I like the idea of being able to have things that I know are made using local produce and that don't have lots of filler."

Her family members and friends often find her creations wrapped among the gifts under the Christmas



Brenda Coomber

tree, she says.

Chili sauce, sauerkraut, crock pickles and jams are among her specialties, and although she uses traditional methods and ingredients to produce these items, she also enjoys experimenting. Among her creations is a new twist on an old favourite: roasted strawberry salsa.

"To my knowledge, no one's ever thought of putting salsa together quite like this."

Not only does she enjoy cooking, but she also enjoys reading about cooking.

"It's important to learn how recipes work," says Coomber. "If you want to improve your vocabulary, you read novels, and if you want to improve your culinary skills, you need to read cookbooks."

KRISTIN HOHENADEL

Third-year psychology student

When Kristin Hohenadel was a child, she loved to work with construction paper, sparkles and glue, but over the past two years, she's taken her love of crafts to a "more sophisticated" level, she says, speaking of her passion for scrapbooking.

"It's a unique way to keep a diary of the things and places you want to remember and to capture a moment in time."

Hohenadel spends a couple of hours a night on her creations and has a room in her home that's used solely for scrapbooking. In addition to making personal mementos and gifts for friends and family, she submits her designs for publication. Her work is featured this month at www.scrappintrends-store.com, and more will appear in the January issue of *Cards*, a magazine produced by the publishers of *Scrapbook Trends*.

When she's not studying or scrapbooking, you'll find Hohenadel waiting tables at NV, a new lounge on Wyndham Street. She started working there in August and says she enjoys the eclectic atmosphere of the city's core.

"Working downtown is awesome. There's so much going on, and there's a real sense of community among downtown workers."



Kristin Hohenadel

Refresher Course Helps First-Year Students Lay Math Anxiety to Rest

Community learning project spawns math brush-up

BY ANDREW VOWLES

NINETY-SIX PER CENT: That's the grade average from high school calculus that Stuart Dimillo brought to the first year of his U of G physics program this fall. So why did he spend two hours during Orientation Week in a library resource room brushing up on math basics?

Referring to his early high school years in Arnprior, he says: "This stuff is what we did way back, and I don't remember it. It's made me feel a lot more comfortable going to class."

Boosting confidence in first-year math-a-philes and math-a-phobes alike is the main goal of Survivor Math, a pilot program that began as a senior undergraduate project in community learning and wound up attracting about 70 students to a McLaughlin Library learning centre on two afternoons during Orientation.

The two-hour refresher course — complete with plenty of Timbits but no calculators — was designed to help new students reinforce math basics in an engaging way and get acquainted with the resource centre

run by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics on the third floor of the library.

Speaking over the voices of "tribes" of students working out decimals, exponents, fractions and equations, Prof. Steve Gismondi said the exercise allows students to recognize up front where their weaknesses are.

Offered for the first time this fall against the backdrop of a campus-wide initiative to improve numeracy, the voluntary program was open to more than 2,000 students who will take introductory math courses this year.

The idea for the brush-up sessions grew out of a community service learning project completed last spring by senior students in the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development.

For their course in non-formal teaching and learning taught by Prof. Helen Hamby, four students created a math basics curriculum for a learning community close to home: U of G students tackling intro math.

Three of those senior students are now enrolled in teachers' college. The fourth, Jelena Loncar — now beginning her master's degree in mathematics at Guelph — spent the summer refining the idea and developing learning materials for this fall's trial run.

She suggested the idea to Prof. Joe Cunsolo, Mathematics and Statistics, who belongs to the campus-wide numeracy committee formed a year ago along with representatives from the Department of Computing and Information Science, the Learning Commons and Teaching Support Services.

"I got all excited because I've been concerned about the numeracy issue on campus," says Cunsolo.

Explaining that students are often over-reliant on calculators for rudimentary operations, he says: "They know the basic concepts, but they get tripped up by the basic math."

Recalling "math anxiety" from her own university days, Hamby says: "What Jelena is doing is finding creative ways to get students over that anxiety. What Survivor Math is designed to do is to break down the barriers so you don't feel judged if you're anxious about math problems." (An earlier numeracy project in Hamby's learning course saw students work on ideas for teaching math to would-be factory workers in Arthur.)

Besides Cunsolo, Gismondi and Loncar, instructors for this fall's sessions included student peer helpers from the supported learning groups program of the Learning Commons.

Copyrights and Wrongs

Six universities share copyright expert as part of collaborative initiative

BY REBECCA KENDALL

COPYRIGHT LAW can be a complicated subject, and people are often confused about what rights they have to use other people's work or how to protect their own. This is especially true when teaching and researching in an academic setting, says Chabriel Colebatch, an intellectual property lawyer from Australia who became the University's copyright officer in January.

Colebatch provides expertise in copyright law and intellectual property protection to Guelph and five other universities — Waterloo, Western, McMaster, Windsor and Wilfrid Laurier — as part of C4, an initiative that sees the institutions co-ordinating, co-operating and collaborating to maximize commercialization and technology transfer.

As part of the initiative, the universities are sharing resources and expertise to establish broader partnerships, applying jointly for funding opportunities, and marketing and commercializing technologies more effectively.

Colebatch travels among all six locations and is at U of G's Business Development Office one day a week for consultation.

Many people have concerns about copyright in the back of their mind but don't have a solid understanding of its intricacies or what they're legally entitled to do, she says. Although most tend to think of copyright in terms of books and journals or artistic works and music, the issue reaches far beyond that. In a university setting, it also includes questions and concerns related to the rights of re-

searchers doing collaborative work and the protection and use of personal websites, web-based databases and interactive teaching tools, bioinformatics applications, questionnaires and computer software, she says.

"Because universities are learning institutions, people often believe the rules don't apply because they're using copyright material for teaching purposes or for education. They think they're covered by some broad exception, but in reality, the exceptions for universities are quite limited and very specific. We can't expect everyone to be copyright experts, so I'm here to help members of the U of G community better understand how copyright works, what exceptions exist and how to protect their own work."

Colebatch's role also involves identifying, evaluating and promoting potentially commercializable copyright material. Guelph produces an enormous amount of copyright material ranging from teaching material and artwork to software and databases, and that work may have enormous appeal for other universities, industry sectors, community groups or government, she says.

"We don't want the results and products of all the great research that goes on within the University to stay within the University, locked up in some lab or office. I'm available to help the U of G community get copyright materials out to those who are interested in them and who would benefit most from them."

Colebatch's expertise complements the already extensive copyright resources found on campus.

The U of G Library, the Office of Open Learning and Teaching Support Services (TSS) all have staff available to help with common copyright concerns, she says, adding that she will be one of several speakers taking part in a copyright workshop Oct. 3 at 11:30 a.m. in Room 384 of the McLaughlin Library.

Hosted by TSS in collaboration with Colebatch and the library, "Copyright, Teaching and You: What to Know and Who Can Help" is designed to educate faculty and instructional staff about copyright law and how it affects teaching. The workshop will offer insights into everything from the dos and don'ts of reproducing someone else's work to how to safeguard your own material.

Using a series of scenarios as examples, library and TSS staff will discuss copyright issues such as using audiovisual materials in class or posting copyright materials online, offer practical alternatives to help instructors avoid copyright limitations and liability, and explain whom to contact with questions related to e-reserve, copyright clearance and the use of various digital media.

Register for the workshop online at www.tss.uoguelph.ca. For more information, contact Mary Nairn at Ext. 53571 or mnairn@uoguelph.ca.

To make an appointment with Colebatch to talk about copyright issues and copyright commercialization, call Ext. 58897 or send an e-mail to ccolebat@uoguelph.ca. A list of frequently asked copyright questions and answers can be found online at www.uoguelph.ca/research/bdo/uog/copyright-faq.shtml.

It's in the Bag!

U of G student and world champion footbagger gets his kicks on campus

BY REBECCA KENDALL

JORDEN MOIR has a strong toehold on the footbag. The first-year mathematics student is one of the top five footbag (more commonly known as Hacky Sack) players in the world. This summer he competed in five freestyle events at the world championships in Frankfurt, Germany, placing first in the shred 30 and unseating the reigning four-year champion.

"The shred is like a 100-metre sprint," says Moir. "You have 30 seconds to do the most difficult and unusual tricks possible without dropping the footbag. It's all about speed and agility and keeping the bag low enough to do as many tricks as possible."

Despite the popularity of footbag around the world, it's still considered an underground sport and only a few people do it professionally, says Moir, who grew up in Dundas.

"We try to promote it as much as we can. Obviously not everyone's going to play it, but we want people to know that the sport exists, that there are serious athletes who train for it and that it spans far beyond just kicking."

No one knows that better than Moir, who says footbag has "helped me develop as a person, given me confidence and helped me interact with people. It also keeps me in shape."

Just a few years ago when he was starting high school, he was never invited to join the students who spent their breaks and noon hours in a circle kicking footbags because he couldn't keep up.

So one day instead of heading to the school cafeteria, he took his lunch money to a nearby store and bought a crocheted footbag.

"In the beginning, I knew just a couple of basic kicks, and I practised from there," he says.

To find out more about footbagging, Moir searched the web and soon realized how far-reaching the activity is and how advanced the footwork and tricks can be.

"I was totally blown away the first time I saw some of the video posted on the web. It was so beyond my perception of what the sport



Jorden Moir demonstrates some of his award-winning footbag moves.

PHOTOS BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

was, and I became obsessed with learning everything I could about it."

Since then, he's been to 35 competitions throughout North America and Europe, including contests in Toronto, Montreal, Chicago and Seattle. Last year, he was flown to Copenhagen to give a demonstration at Denmark's national competition. He also competed in the world championships in Helsinki, Finland, placing third in the 30-second shred and fourth in the open singles freestyle. This August, he placed second at the U.S. Open in Portland, Ore.

Each freestyle trick has a certain number of points, and points are determined by the complexity of the trick, Moir explains before warming up to demonstrate his skills. His skill level allows for up to eight points per trick, he says, adding that in Germany he racked up 240 points in 30 seconds, and his personal best is 268.

Dressed in his standard "uniform" of shorts and a sleeveless shirt, he shows off some basic moves such as toe kicks, knee kicks and stalls,

which are moves that don't generate any points but are used to join one move to another. Gradually he progresses to more difficult and intricate tricks like "the mirage," the "atom smasher" and "the royale," which is one of his many signature moves.

"If you invent the trick, you get to name it, and some of the names are pretty ridiculous," says Moir, who has developed more than 50 tricks, including "the lawnmoir."

"I'm well-known for thinking outside the box," he says as he ducks, spins, kicks and weaves the footbag around his body. "It's about figuring out how to cram as many elements as possible into one complex trick."

The moves mastered by professional-level footbaggers like Moir are often so quick that the human eye can readily miss some of the finer elements. He explains each of his tricks to this reporter and a growing audience, making it easier for unskilled observers to understand what they're seeing.

In competition, the routines are videotaped so they can later be slowed down for the judges

to accurately score the performance, says Moir, who continues to answer interview questions despite the attention he must pay to his footwork and movement.

"Some people may think what I do is a novelty, but those who see it are blown away," he says.

He adds another layer to the performance by throwing in a second footbag and a series of red balls that he juggles while keeping the footbags in constant motion.

Moir says he often practises tricks for hours at a time, trying to perfect his craft and develop new and innovative moves.

"The key is repetition and to never give up. It's truly an art form when you can do whatever pops into your head. My main goal in footbag is to do whatever I want whenever I want."

His next competition is in Prague in early 2007. A series of videos of him in action has been uploaded to www.youtube.com and can be accessed by keying "Jorden Moir" into the search field.

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Research Office to Work Closely With Colleges

Continued from page 1

helping address specific issues of importance for faculty research programs, says Wildeman. Servicing researchers' application and contract needs and ensuring that critical research operational compliance requirements are met will fall under the purview of this position.

Animal-Care Services, whose responsibilities include animal user training and regulatory compliance, will now report through the AVP (research services). The Business Development Office will continue to report through this AVP.

As for international research programs, the office of the AVP (research services) will continue to provide information about international opportunities, work with faculty on proposals and look at ways to better help with reporting requirements, says Wildeman. He notes that the Office of Research will play a bigger role in working with deans and colleges to move the strategic research plan forward in the international arena, within the context of college integrated planning.

In other changes, research financial services will move to the portfolio of the assistant vice-president (finance and services). The unit will remain located within the Office of Research and will continue to be engaged with grants, contracts and other services.

"Much of the growth in research has been through institutional programs, and as we already do with the OMAFRA agreement, we want to be certain of the best possible institutional oversight on research accounting and auditing," says Wildeman. "This will ultimately give researchers the services that can most effectively aid them in financial management of their projects."

In addition, the University staff veterinarian will now report to the associate vice-president (agri-food and partnerships research) to ensure that veterinary care is an integral part of managing Guelph's research facilities, he says.

A second important part of the restructuring plan involves greater engagement between the Office of Research and those responsible for co-ordinating research in each of the colleges, he says.

"This group of people is key to better understanding faculty needs for research, for identifying new interdisciplinary opportunities, for co-ordinating initiatives identified through integrated planning within colleges, and for better understanding the research-teaching links within colleges."

The third area of need identified was communications and information management. "Effectively flowing information in an environment saturated with e-mail and paper is a challenge faced by many activities on campus," says Wildeman.

In collaboration with the chief information officer, the Office of Research will be looking at web-based tools and databases to better communicate with researchers, and to better meet reporting and integrated planning needs, he says.

Finally, there's a need to place greater emphasis on how the University's distinctive capacity is communicated to the organizations that support it provincially, nationally and internationally, he says.

"The changes we're making now are focused on creating the best possible campus systems to support research. At the same time, all universities are putting greater emphasis on aligning their capacity with new opportunities nationally and internationally. The review pointed out that my own office must play a bigger role in working with external stakeholders who see opportunities to work with U of G."

He adds that the review of the Office of Research again brought into focus the great efforts of all its staff.

"It's very important that these changes also provide opportunities for everyone in the office to understand how valuable their contributions are to the University's success."



Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken on campus, you will have your name entered in a draw to be held at the end of the semester for a \$50 gift certificate donated by the U of G Bookstore. Anyone who submits the right answer by Sept. 29 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca or call Ext. 56039. The following people correctly reported that the Sept. 13 photo was taken in the MacKinnon Building extension: Steve Gazzola, Ray Hutcheson and John Van Manen.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL

Urquhart Urges Writers to Read

Continued from page 1

essay for me to stay home for a year or two rather than pursue a career," she says.

During those early years of marriage, Jane Urquhart never stopped writing and says being home alone during the day gave her time to focus more completely on her work. "It was only after I had a baby that I felt confident and grown-up enough to begin sending material off to literary magazines."

This is the second time she has been formally invited back to her alma mater. In 1999, she was presented with an honorary doctorate of letters at U of G's summer convocation.

"I always loved this campus, so there's something exciting about coming back," she says. "I don't really feel that I've changed that much since I was here as a student 30 years ago, and that's an odd thing because a lot has happened to me in the intervening years."

Urquhart has also been a writer-in-residence at the University of Ottawa and Memorial University and held the presidential writer-in-residence fellowship at the University of Toronto.

Working with emerging writers who have a desire to write regardless of what might happen to the material they produce is exciting, she says.

"I think the most important thing that anyone who's into writing can do is to continue to read extensively. I'm an obsessed reader, I'm a compulsive reader, I'm an escape reader, I'm every kind of reader you can imagine."

Urquhart will be on campus Mondays and Fridays until the end of the semester to consult with U of G students, staff and faculty, as well as members of the local community. To book an appointment, contact Michael Boterman at Ext. 53147 or mboterma@uoguelph.ca. Urquhart's campus e-mail is jaurquha@uoguelph.ca.



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One-bedroom condo in the Village by the Arboretum, vendor open houses Oct. 1 and 15 from 1 to 4 p.m., 65 Bayberry, Unit C104.

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The next issue of At Guelph appears Oct. 11. The deadline to receive copy is Oct. 3.

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EVENTS

ARBORETUM

Naturalist Chris Earley discusses winter birds Oct. 11 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$45. Register by Sept. 29 at Ext. 52358.

Horticulturist Sean Fox leads a workshop on tree identification Oct. 19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$40. Registration is required by Oct. 5.

Digital nature photography is the focus of a workshop led by Jon Brierley Oct. 21 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$55. Register by Oct. 6.

ART CENTRE

Macdonald Stewart Art Centre director Judith Nasby will give a gallery talk and lead a tour of the exhibition "Contemporary Painting From Chongqing" Oct. 3 at noon. The show continues to Nov. 5.

Opening Sept. 28 at the art centre is an exhibition of drawings called "... draw while..." by Guelph artist Ryan Price. An opening reception will be held Oct. 12 at 7 p.m.

COLLOQUIUM

The fall Scottish studies colloquium is Sept. 30 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Rozanski 102. For more information or to register, call Ext. 53209, send e-mail to scottish@uoguelph.ca or visit www.uoguelph.ca/scottish.

CONCERTS

The Thursdays at Noon concert series kicks off Sept. 28 with vocalist/guitarist Katrine Anderson and harpist Sharlene Wallace performing music of Scotland. The series continues Oct. 5 with Hindustani classical music and Oct. 12 with a program of jazz. Concerts are in MacKinnon 107.

LECTURES

OAC's public lecture series begins with the F.W. Presant Memorial Lecture Sept. 27. Dan Weary of the University of British Columbia discusses "Building a Better World for Dairy Cattle: The Science and Practice of Improved Care and Housing for Animals." On Oct. 2, the Agrologist-in-Residence Lecture features Owen Roberts of the Office of Research and Sarah Brown of Adculture considering "Students and Professionals: Working Together to Bridge the Agricultural Communications Gap." The lectures begin at 7 p.m. in OVC 1714.

The speaker series celebrating 25 years of co-operative education at Guelph continues with "Off the Beaten Path" Oct. 4 at 5:30 p.m. in Peter Clark Hall.

NOTICES

OVC students who participated in the Global Vets program this summer will talk about their experiences Sept. 28 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in OVC 1714.

The Stress Management and High Performance Clinic's next relaxation and stress management skills training class begins Oct. 10 at 12:30 p.m. in UC 335 and runs Tuesdays and Thursdays for 12 sessions. The clinic is also offering a five-session better sleep program on Tuesdays beginning Oct. 3. It meets at 7:30 p.m. in UC 004. For more information, visit www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers or leave a message at Ext. 52662.

The U of G Christian Forum is sponsoring a Christian education program called "Alpba" Mondays at noon in Rathby House. For information or to register, send e-mail to alpha@uoguelph.ca.

SEMINARS

The Joint Centre of Excellence for Research on Immigration and Settlement is sponsoring a seminar on "The Role of Secondary Cities" Sept. 28 at 1 p.m. in Hutt 234.

The Centre for Food and Soft Materials Science seminar series presents Ahmed Touhami of the Department of Physics discussing "Exploring Microbial Cell Surfaces at the Nanoscale" Sept. 28 at 2:30 p.m. in Room 3317 of the science complex.

The Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology's graduate student seminar series continues Sept. 29 with Jessica Cock exploring "Current Technologies Used in the Improvement of Food Safety." On Oct. 6, Jeff Hodgson discusses "Expression and Intracellular Trafficking of AcMNPV Cathepsin." The seminars begin at 12:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 115.

"An Acoustic Sensor for Prions" is the focus of Prof. Gordon Hayward, Engineering, in the Department of Pathobiology seminar series Sept. 29 at 2 p.m. in Pathobiology 2106.

The Department of Human Health and Nutritional Sciences launches its fall seminar series with PhD student Rebecca Reid-Jones considering "Examining Simulator Adaptation Syndrome From a Biomechanics Perspective" Oct. 2 at 1:30 p.m. in Food Science 241.

TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services offers a range of workshops for faculty and instructional staff. Upcoming sessions include "Copyright, Teaching and You: What to Know and Who Can Help" Oct. 3, "WebCT Techniques: Preparing Electronic Documents" Oct. 5, "Faculty Mentoring"

Oct. 6, Photoshop Tidbits: Layers" Oct. 10 and "Women in Academia: Establishing 'Presence' in the Classroom" Oct. 11. On Oct. 12, a luncheon for new faculty will focus on "Interpreting Mid-Semester Feedback." For more information or to register, visit www.tss.uoguelph.ca. If you have questions, contact Mary Nairn at Ext. 53571 or mnairn@uoguelph.ca.

THEATRE

Three Cities in the Life of Dr. Norman Bethune, a multi-media chamber opera, runs Oct. 3 at 8 p.m. in MacKinnon 107. Admission is free.

THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of D.V.Sc. candidate Alexander Rodriguez-Palacios, Clinical Studies, is Oct. 2 at 1:30 p.m. in OVC 1713. The thesis is "Role of *Clostridium difficile* in Calf Diarrhea and Its Potential Implications to Public Health." The adviser is Prof. Henry Stämpfli.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Andrea Bernard, Department of Integrative Biology, is Oct. 3 at 9 a.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "Cryptic Structure and Diversity of Lake Whitefish (*Coregonus clupeaformis*) in Ontario Waters." The advisers are Prof. Moira Ferguson and David Noakes.

The final examination of Genqing Liang, a PhD candidate in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, is Oct. 3 at 2 p.m. in Axelrod 337. The thesis is "Herpes Simplex Virus 1-Related Cellular Transcription Factor, LUMIN/CREB3, Is a Regulator in the Endoplasmic Reticulum Stress Response." The adviser is Prof. Ray Lu.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Craig Urekar, Integrative

Biology, is Oct. 5 at 2 p.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "The Phylogenetic Position of *Rana sylvatica* Compared With North American and Eurasian Brown Frogs." The advisers are Profs. Jim Bogart and Roy Danzmann.

WORKSHOP

As part of the Environmental Science Research Initiative funded by the Faculty of Environmental Sciences, a workshop on "Environment and Agriculture at Guelph: Multidisciplinary Research and Its Challenges" will be held Oct. 2 from 8:50 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Arboretum Centre. Keynote speaker is Scott Swinton of Michigan State University. For more information, contact Prof. Claudia Wagner-Riddle at Ext. 52787 or cwagner@uoguelph.ca.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The YMCA-YWCA of Guelph and the Guelph-Wellington Breast Cancer Support Group are sponsoring a "Catch the Wind, Catch the Spirit of Hope" ceremony and an awareness walk Oct. 1 at 1 p.m. at Silvercreek Park. For more details, call Karen Richardson at Ext. 54009.

The Guelph Food Bank's Thanksgiving food drive runs to Oct. 15. For information, call 519-767-1380.

Guelph and Wellington County Master Gardeners host a fall seminar series in October. Discussion will focus on bulbs Oct. 10 and hostas Oct. 17. Sessions begin at 7 p.m. at the Guelph Turfgrass Institute. Tickets are \$7 and available at the door.

The Royal City Quilters' Guild meets the second Tuesday of each month from September to June at Three Willows United Church, 577 Willow Rd. The next meeting is Oct. 10 at 7:15 p.m.

Film Series Spotlights Czech New Wave Films

OF G'S FOURTH annual international film series, "Beyond Hollywood," is focusing on Czech new wave films this fall.

"There were so many films in the 1960s from Czechoslovakia — it was kind of a golden age for Czech cinema," says film series programmer Prof. Paul Salmon, English and Theatre Studies.

"It was a time when censorship and a lot of political repression were relaxed. Then when the Russian tanks rolled into Prague in 1968, it put a halt to a flowering of creativity."

Next up in the series is an Oct. 1 screening of the 1963 film *Black Peter* by director Milos Forman. It's a coming-of-age tale that captures the

emotional turbulence of youth in a way that's both revealing of Czech society in the '60s and universal in its appeal, says Salmon.

Vera Chytilova's 1970 film *Fruit of Paradise* will be shown Oct. 15. The film is a stylized, surrealist account of a vacationing couple, based on the story of Adam and Eve.

On Oct. 22, the 1968 film *The*

Joke, directed by Jaromil Jires, will be screened. It's the story of a young man sentenced to years of hard labour for sending a postcard with a humorous reference to Trotsky.

The fall series concludes Nov. 5 with *Pearls of the Deep* directed by Jiri Menzel, Jan Nemecek and Chytilova.

"This omnibus film provides a

fitting close to the series as it presents five short cinematic gems by the top Czech new wave filmmakers," says Salmon.

Each screening begins with an introduction at 6:45 p.m., followed by the film at 7 p.m. Location is Room 384 in the McLaughlin Library. Discussion and light refreshments will follow each film. Admission is free.



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INSIDE: FAMILY HISTORIES AND MYSTERIES • STUDENT GOVERNMENTS PROVIDE STRONG VOICES



This year's winners of the College of Arts Teaching Excellence Awards are, from left, Prof. Dawn Cornelio, Jesse Stewart and Kris Gies. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Kudos for Top Teachers

College of Arts honours three for excellence in the classroom

BY DAVID DICENZO

FOR PROF. Dawn Cornelio, Languages and Literatures, good teaching is about pushing boundaries. A faculty member in the French studies program and co-ordinator of the women's studies program, she expects plenty from her students, and given her status as one of three winners of the 2006 College of Arts Teaching Excellence Awards, it's clear they like her approach.

"The thing I try to do most is make sure the students are very active," says Cornelio. "They have to come to class, they have to do things, and they like most of the things I ask them to do. They see the reason why."

Cornelio joins Jesse Stewart, a sessional instructor in the School of Fine Art and Music, and graduate teaching assistant Kris Gies of the Department of History as this year's winners of the college teaching awards.

A 1993 BA graduate of Guelph, Stewart returned in 2002 to begin a PhD in literature/theatre studies in English and became the first recipient of the Brock Doctoral Scholarship, U of G's most prestigious graduate award. In 2005, the accomplished jazz percussionist had a chance to take over teaching the "Music and Popular Culture" course, which draws more than

1,200 students a year. It's been a perfect fit for Stewart, who also teaches drums in a one-on-one setting with students through the University's applied music program.

"It's a real blast to teach 'Music and Popular Culture,'" he says, adding that he's humbled by the college's recognition of his work. "I'm interested in the subject on many levels. The history of the drum set, which is my main instrument, is in many ways the history of North American popular music. It's wonderful for me in terms of the way it connects to my creative practice."

Stewart, who's writing his dissertation on the intersections between jazz and hip-hop cultures, admits it's a challenge to squeeze the history of popular North American music into 12 weeks of lectures. From the outset, he explains to students that his material is not the definitive history and encourages them to find links between genres and talk about them. To aid in that, he developed a WebCT component for the course that gives students a chance to discuss the music presented in class, as well as some of their favourite performers.

"None of these styles of music and the performances we're talking about exist in isolation — no music is created in a vacuum," says Stewart. "They're in constant dialogue with one another. I place an emphasis on dialogue — cultural dialogue, musi-

cal dialogue. That extends to my pedagogical approach."

Gies is following in the footsteps of several other GTAs in the Department of History who have received a College of Arts teaching award. The Michigan native is now in the third year of a PhD in modern Scottish history after majoring in medieval and early Scottish history. Among

Continued on page 14

New College to Officially Open

CME to celebrate launch Oct. 25

UOF G IS HOSTING the official opening of the College of Management and Economics (CME) Oct. 25 at 4:30 p.m. in Peter Clark Hall. The event is free and open to the U of G community and members of the public.

The event will include an introduction of CME's advisory board, displays on each of the college's programs, entertainment and refreshments.

"The University has already established itself as a leader in management and business-related programs," says president Alastair Summerlee, who will give the opening remarks at the event. "With the creation of the College of Management and Economics, our students are benefiting even more from expanded course offerings and continued innovation in teaching, research and outreach."

CME includes the Department of Economics, the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, the Department of Marketing and Consumer Studies and the new Department of Business. It is also home to the Centre for Studies in Leadership.

"The creation of a new academic college is big news at Guelph, and we believe this business school is long overdue," says CME dean Chris McKenna, who will make funding announcements and share the col-

lege's goals at the event. "The creation of a new college opens up tremendous opportunities to expand and deepen our understanding of business and its role in society."

Student interest in U of G's management and business-related programs has risen dramatically over the last few years, making Guelph's bachelor of commerce program one of the largest business programs in the country, says McKenna. B.Comm. enrolment has increased by 88 per cent in the past several years, and interest in economics specializations in the BA program continues to grow, he says.

Graduate enrolment has also risen substantially, specifically in Guelph's MA (Leadership) and MBA programs in food and agribusiness and hospitality and tourism management. New executive management and leadership programs are now among the largest graduate programs on campus.

McKenna notes that alumni from CME undergraduate and graduate programs are employed in senior management positions in a variety of sectors, including banking and finance, industry, government and hospitality, and as academic faculty on campuses worldwide.

To attend the Oct. 25 event, RSVP by Oct. 16 at www.alumni.uoguelph.ca/news.htm.

CBS Prof a Class Act

Course project turns students into 'journal' authors

BY ANDREW VOWLES

PROF. JOHN DAWSON'S research funding is meant to allow him to focus on studying protein biochemistry and heart disease in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, but he must be doing something right with his limited time in the classroom because he's this year's winner of the College of Biological Science Teaching Award.

For his sole undergraduate course — a fourth-year offering called "Structure and Function of Macromolecules" — he requires students not just to complete a project but also to write a research article for review and possible publi-



Prof. John Dawson

cation in a mock scientific journal produced in his office.

"I turned the normal term essay

into a real experience in scientific publishing," he says.

About 40 students pair up to complete a demanding research project in protein folding and write a draft journal article for review by their classmates. They use the review comments to revise their work before preparing a final version to submit — cover letter and all — to the electronic "journal."

Dawson, who joined U of G four years ago, selects the best articles for *Fold*, his mock e-journal meant to resemble a professionally produced electronic publication. (Besides evoking the course content, that title is partly a nod to the one-word

Continued on page 14



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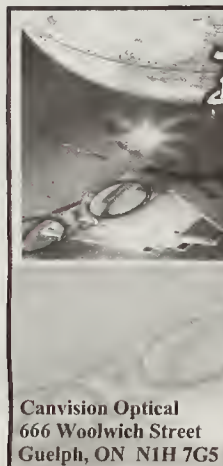
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from the president

A Symbol of Hope, A Symbol of Community

Editor's note: President Alastair Summerlee welcomes comments on his column at president@uoguelph.ca.

FOR THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS, I, like many people on campus, have been wearing several bands of red and white beads around my wrist. They're intended to help raise awareness and funds for the University's Masai Project, which aims to contribute \$100,000 to the fight against AIDS in Africa.

No matter what I'm wearing on a given day, I put on these colourful accessories. I've grown accustomed to feeling them slide up and down my wrist as I write, eat, dress and shake hands.

The bracelets are both conversation starters and conversation dominators when curious people spot them peeking out from under the sleeve of my shirt or jacket. Some ask if I'm starting a new fashion trend; others just want to know if the beads symbolize something. "Yes," is always my answer to the latter question. "They most definitely symbolize something."

I tell them the bracelets were made by women in an African co-op and that the University is selling them to help build an AIDS clinic in Lesotho. Almost always, people want to know more. Often, I end up leaving a bracelet behind (after collecting the standard \$5 donation, of course). Indeed, the beads have become a highly visible and successful way to promote the Masai Project. But to me, they have come to signify so much more.

Every time I put on my trio of bracelets or glance down at them as I go about my day, I think about the giving nature of the U of G community. These red and white beads have come to represent our staff, faculty and students.

They're symbols of the people who selflessly dedicate themselves to the many charitable initiatives on this campus. It doesn't matter if the beneficiaries are people in Guelph, people in another Canadian community or people halfway around the world. If it involves helping out, making a difference for someone somewhere, our University community is there in full force.

The Masai Project is one example. U of G employees who were inspired by Guelph doctor Anne-Marie Zajdlík's efforts to raise \$1 million in Guelph for the Lesotho AIDS clinic approved my office for support. Several of my staff got involved, and soon e-mails were going back and forth from Guelph to the University of KwaZulu-Natal and the Inina Craft Agency in South Africa. A staff member in our finance department convinced someone somewhere to donate the shipping costs, and the bracelets arrived. Red and white beads started adorning wrists everywhere. Someone else came up with the idea of a fundraising dinner, and soon we had African dancers agreeing to donate their time to perform at the event and Anne-Marie agreeing to speak.

It's been an impressive undertaking, but I'm pleased and proud to say that it's only one example of the tremendous effort that is poured into such initiatives on this campus. Whether it's the Masai Project or students teeter-tottering for 24 hours straight in the cold and rain for local and global charities, the enthusiasm and commitment are always there.

We recently kicked off another United Way campaign on campus and announced a fundraising goal of \$370,000. Our goal increases each year, but no one ever seems daunted by the challenge. Volunteers simply come up with new and unique ways to encourage giving, and we always seem to exceed our expectations.

This month marks another annual tradition — the "Trick or Eat" campaign that sees students going door to door on Halloween to collect donations for the Guelph Food Bank. Last year, a record 800 student volunteers collected more than \$52,000 worth of food in three hours. "Trick or Eat" is part of the national Meal Exchange program, in which students donate points from their meal plans to buy food for local charities. Guelph students consistently set records in Canada for the most money raised through this program.

I continually hear stories of faculty and staff who dedicate their time to numerous causes, from raising money to help fund research on cancer, heart disease and spinal cord injuries to spending summers working in orphanages and helping to bring refugees to Canada.

That's why it's so fitting that U of G will be the first Canadian university to participate in Leave for Change. This innovative program allows people to transform their holidays into short international assignments in developing countries. I look forward to hearing the stories our first U of G participants will have to tell of their experiences overseas.

I will be encouraging them to keep in touch via e-mail or through blogs — a world I've recently started venturing into myself. I started a "president's blog" this fall, partly to have another avenue through which I can spread the word about the great efforts under way on this campus. It also serves as a diary of sorts for me, a way of expressing to the community the thoughts that are running through my mind.

During the hustle and bustle of life, it's easy to forget to take note of the small details and deeds that are making a difference. My blog is one way to help me ensure that they don't go unnoticed.

I'll be making some mental notes for my blog when I attend the Masai dinner Oct. 12. It's a fundraiser for Africa, a place where both sickness and poverty are rampant, so the modest dinner menu will be mindful and respectful of that fact.

I expect to see a lot of people wearing red and white bracelets at the dinner. I will, too, of course, knowing all the while that it's really the heart of the University community I'm wearing under my sleeve.

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NEW DELHI ECONOMIST TO GIVE HOPPER LECTURE

Ravi Shankar Srivastava of the Centre for the Study of Regional Development at Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi will give the 14th annual Hopper Lecture on International Development Oct. 17 at 7:30 p.m. in OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre. An economics professor and expert on rural poverty, labour markets and migration, Srivastava will speak on "Expanding Social Security in a Neo-Liberal World: India's Trust With Rights-Based Approaches." The talk is free and open to the public.

STAND UP AGAINST POVERTY

A number of U of G student clubs, including Engineers Without Borders and Oxfam, are participating in STAND UP, a global initiative started by the UN Millennium Campaign to raise awareness of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and to demonstrate global support for the eradication of poverty. Students will stand together against poverty Oct. 16 at 9:30 a.m. on Branson Plaza. Information about the MDGs will be on display.

DAY TO PROMOTE GIRLS' INTEREST IN ENGINEERING

U of G is one of 15 Ontario universities hosting a free one-day event for girls in grades 7 to 10 and their parents, showcasing career opportunities in engineering. Called Go ENG Girl, it runs Oct. 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Thornbrough Building. Participants will meet female engineers and engineering students, learn about their experiences and take part in hands-on activities. For more information, visit www.ospe.on.ca/goenggirl.

ALCOHOL AWARENESS WEEK

U of G's Awareness Balance Choice program marks National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week Oct. 16 to 20 with a number of activities. They include a cotton candy tent Oct. 16 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Branson Plaza, a BYOBanana event for north residence students Oct. 17 from 8 p.m. to midnight in Lambton Hall and a similar event for south residence students Oct. 19 at the Eccles Centre. The week also features displays in the MacNaughton Building Oct. 18 and University Centre Oct. 19, a kissing booth in Creelman Hall Oct. 20 and a week-long display of a wrecked car in Branson Plaza.

HTM STUDENTS GET A JUMP-START ON CAREERS

The School of Hospitality and Tourism Management will hold its first Career Awareness Week for fourth-year undergraduate students beginning Oct. 16. Executives and human resource specialists from seven companies will spend half a day on campus making presentations and interviewing students for jobs to begin next spring.

ARREST MADE IN THEFTS

Campus police arrested a 22-year-old Guelph man Oct. 5 following an investigation into the thefts of wallets and ID from the men's locker room at the Athletics Centre. The thefts occurred Sept. 17 and 25.

United Way Aims to Close the Gap

Local organization has three-year plan to meet community needs

BY MARY DICKIESON

IN 2005, the University's United Way campaign reached an all-time high of \$369,000 in donations. Those dollars boosted the county-wide campaign to \$2.37 million.

But it wasn't enough.

Volunteers with the United Way of Guelph and Wellington still had to say "no" to some of the agencies and programs that applied for funding, as they seem to do every year.

"Guelph is one of the fastest-growing mid-size cities in Ontario," says United Way staff member Lori Arsenault, "and the needs of people in our community are growing even faster."

With an estimated population growth of two per cent a year and a higher-than-average percentage of seniors and children under age five, Guelph is seeing its community resources stretched thin. Not to mention the growing number of youth who are dropping out of school and out of family homes to live on their own.

"It's challenging to know where program dollars will have the greatest impact," says Arsenault, a 1992 Guelph graduate and the United Way campaign director who works with University volunteers on the campus fundraising drive.

She says a three-year review of the United Way's allocation process shows an accumulated funding shortfall between community needs and campaign achievement. This gap equates to about \$800,000.

"Closing that gap over the next three years has become our county-wide fundraising goal. We want to meet the programming needs in Guelph and Wellington and



improve the quality of life for people in our communities."

In addition to eight paid staff like Arsenault, the United Way is guided by a board of directors, social planning and fund distribution committees and a campaign cabinet — all volunteers. Among them are a number of U of G employees and graduates, including Prof. David Douglas, Environmental Design and Rural Development, who chairs the social planning committee, and Prof. Tim Mau, Political Science, who chairs the fund distribution committee.

Sitting on the United Way's campaign cabinet are the co-chairs of the University's campus campaign — the retired CBS professor Fred Ramprasad; Irene Thompson, associate director of residence life; and OAC graduate student Barb Caswell.

In addition, says Arsenault, this is the third consecutive year U of G has provided a co-op student to help the United Way of Guelph and Wellington during the fall semester. Latham French is currently fulfilling that role.

The social planning and fund distribution committees conduct ongoing reviews of programs funded by the United Way and evaluate new applications that fit the United Way mandate to support programs that fill basic human needs, create a better community, reach children and youth, help individuals and

families, promote health and independent living and support seniors.

Over the years, this review process has added a number of new programs to the United Way roster, says Arsenault.

An alternative education program for street youth is the most recent success story. Give Yourself Credit helps high-school dropouts earn credits toward a diploma.

"There are lots of reasons some kids just can't make it in the traditional school system," she says, "but without an education, there's a greater likelihood these youth will encounter even more challenges, such as competing in the job market, qualifying for social assistance, finding and maintaining quality housing and staying healthy."

When Give Yourself Credit was launched last February, three U of G students became teachers by volunteering to turn their own science studies into lessons for the alternative school. Participants in the first-year seminar course "The Art of Communicating Science," Vanessa Warren, Arthur Churchyard and Debi Banerjee worked with a class of 15 street-involved youth.

"There are so many ways the University of Guelph community supports the United Way," says Arsenault. "We are thankful for everyone who volunteers in a community program and for all those who donate to the annual United Way campaign on campus."

The U of G fundraising goal for 2006 is \$370,000. See www.uoguelph.ca/unitedway for details of campaign events, to download a pledge form and to learn more about United Way programs in the community.

people

TEXTILE INSTITUTE HONOURS EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

The Institute of Textile Science recently presented retired engineering and consumer studies professor Keith Slater with the Textile Science Award for excellence in research. It is the most prestigious award available to Canadians in the textile science field. The award was presented at a special ceremony marking the institute's 50th anniversary, and Slater was the invited keynote speaker, discussing the future of the textile industry in Canada.

PROF GIVES KEYNOTE TALK

University professor emerita Lynn McDonald, Sociology and Anthropology, gave the keynote address at the "Strategies for Change Revisioning" conference of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women Sept. 29 in Toronto.

PICTURE THIS!

Peter Wolf of Teaching Support Services and Jane Burpee of the U of G Library were part of a team that won the recent 24-hour filmmaking contest sponsored by Ed Video Media Arts Centre.

The following appointments were recently announced at the University:

- Rachelle Campbell, supervisor, Child-Care and Learning Centre
- Catherine Chebowy, technician, Laboratory Services
- Jennifer Collins, veterinary technician, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Greg Colyer, systems analyst, Department of Computing and Information Science
- Serge Courchesne, supervisor, facilities and physical plant, Alfred Campus
- Helen Donaldson, animal utilization protocol clerk, Animal-Care Services
- Sean Fox, assistant manager, Arboretum
- Heather Harris, service assistant, Occupational Health Services
- Pamela Israel, veterinary technician, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Joel Liefso, generic agricultural assistant, Elora Dairy, Research Station Operations
- David MacKay, laboratory technician, Laboratory Services
- Rebecca Marshall, lab technician, Animal Health Laboratory
- Paul Nequest, second-class stationary maintenance engineer, Central Utilities Plant
- Joanne Raymond, inspectorate clerk, Animal-Care Services
- Darlene Sharpe, generic agricultural assistant, Ponsonby Dairy, Research Station Operations
- Sharon Sinclair, secretary to the chair, Department of Business
- Liz Southwell, liaison assistant, Ontario Agricultural College dean's office
- Melinda Vanryn, academic assistant to the associate dean and program counsellor, Ontario Agricultural College
- Philip Zachariah, judicial officer, Office of the Provost.

Phase 2A of Science Complex Open for Tours Oct. 26

New wing is home to Department of Chemistry, deans of CBS and CPES

THE U OF G COMMUNITY is invited to tour Phase 2A of the science complex Oct. 26 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tours will depart from the foyer of the main entrance of the complex on the north side of the building. It can be reached from Alumni Walk between the MacLachlan and Reynolds buildings. Refreshments will be served.

Phase 2A is the diagonal wing of the triangle-shaped complex fronting southward on Reynolds Walk. It houses teaching and computing labs and faculty and administrative offices for the Department of Chemistry and the deans of the College of Biological Science and the College of Physical and Engineering Science. It also contains student counselling

services and student council offices for both colleges.

Administrative staff and some teaching staff from the departments of Integrative Biology and Molecular and Cellular Biology (MCB) moved into Phase 2A in July. Students began using teaching and computing labs in the new wing this semester.

Phase 2A is intended to integrate science research and teaching in several ways. One end of the wing connects to Phase 1 of the science complex, which opened in 2004, and houses labs for the Department of Chemistry and MCB. Also connected here is the MacNaughton Building, long the home of the departments of Chemistry, Physics, and Mathematics and Statistics.

The new wing will also adjoin

Phase 2B, the final portion of the science complex now being built along Gordon Street that will be completed by summer 2007. That will house faculty office and research labs of zoologists, ecologists and botanists in the Department of Integrative Biology.

Also to be completed next summer is a skylit courtyard with food service amenities within the triangle-shaped complex.

In addition, next year will see final installation within Phase 1 of the scientific instruments for the Advanced Analysis Centre.

The entire science complex will add about 390,000 square feet of research, teaching and administrative space and be home to about 2,600 faculty, staff and students.

Selection Committee for New Chancellor Approved

AT ITS OCT. 3 MEETING, Senate approved the membership slate for the selection committee for a new U of G chancellor.

Chaired by president Alastair Summerlee, the committee consists of Prof. Bill Frisbee, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition; Prof. Terry Graham, Human Health and Nutritional Sciences; Prof. Linda Mahood, History; undergraduate students Mark Abramowitz and Kim Neale; graduate student Joel Wood; Douglas Derry, chair of Board of Governors; alumni representative Peter Hannam, a graduate of OAC; and staff representative Pamela Healey, assistant vice-president (development).

Senate also approved a proposed master's program in European studies after discussion about the

viability of such a program and the resources required. Currently, the only other Canadian university offering an MA in European studies is the University of British Columbia, and Senate was advised that the Guelph offering would be attractive to students who'd prefer to study in Ontario. The two programs are also quite different, with U of G's to focus more on culture and history, whereas UBC's focuses more on politics. Guelph's program would accept a small number of students in its first year, then build its numbers and reputation.

In addition, Senate approved a proposal for a PhD in sociology that would focus on two areas: global agro-food systems and rural change; and work, gender and well-being in a global context.

Concerns were raised about how this program would affect other academic units that deliver courses and conduct research in similar areas, including the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development. Senate was assured that, because sociology takes students on a much different career path than other disciplines do, there would be no adverse effect on other programs due to this PhD offering.

In other business, Prof. Maureen Mancuso, provost and vice-president (academic), presented a summary report on Guelph's multi-year agreement, which outlines the goals for maintaining and improving quality, access and accountability over the next three years (see story at right).

First Multi-Year Agreement With Province Completed

Commitments based on U of G's ongoing initiatives

THE UNIVERSITY has completed its first multi-year agreement (MYA) with the provincial government.

It outlines Guelph's goals for maintaining and improving quality, access and accountability over the next three years. It builds on the interim accountability agreement between U of G and the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities pertaining to quality in-

vestment funding for 2005/06 that was posted on the registrar's web page in May.

MYAs are a new requirement for funding under the provincial "Reaching Higher" plan. In 2005, the Ontario government announced that it's investing \$6.2 billion in colleges and universities in the next five years as part of a plan to ensure greater funding stability and predictability. In return, post-secondary institutions must submit agreements that specify actions, commitments and reporting methods to achieve desired outcomes.

"This was a significant undertaking," says Prof. Maureen Mancuso, vice-president (academic). "But the extensive work we had already done as a university on initiatives such as integrated planning, the White Paper and the President's Task Force on Accessibility positioned us well to meet the new requirements."

She adds that the commitments included in the MYA are based on current ongoing initiatives at the University.

Brian Pettigrew, assistant vice-president (institutional research and planning) and registrar, says the MYA supplements rather than replaces performance indicators and accountability arrangements already in place, and that U of G incorporated existing programs into the new plan.

Guelph's MYA was presented to the Vice-President's Advisory Council and to the Senate Committee on University Planning and was summarized at Senate this month.

A copy of U of G's agreement is available online at www.uoguelph.ca/analysis_planning/reports.shtml and in the executive offices on the fourth floor of the University Centre.

Is That Information Private?

University Secretariat offers training on access, privacy issues

BY ANDREW VOWLES

WHEN MACLEAN'S UPPED the ante this fall, Vicki Hodgkinson took notice — although for slightly different reasons than officials at almost two dozen universities across Canada that received access-to-information requests by the magazine seeking data for its annual university rankings issue.

Hodgkinson, who was named Guelph's first University secretary in the spring, is now watching events as the magazine pursues its bid, particularly in Ontario, where a new Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) implemented this summer now requires universities to meet access and privacy provisions formerly applied only to government agencies and community colleges.

Unlike those 22 universities across the country, Guelph released information to the newsmagazine for its rankings issue to be published this fall.

"We continue to have some reservations about the magazine's use

of some of the information, but we respect the public's desire for transparency," says the former executive assistant to the president.

Although the Maclean's case has garnered plenty of news headlines this fall, Hodgkinson says the province's still-fledgling legislation on access and privacy is actually old news in many ways for universities in general and Guelph in particular.

That legislation "sets a new benchmark of accountability but not a new philosophy," she says. "FIPPA really just represents another step because the University of Guelph has had policies around access to information and protection of privacy for years. A great part of everything we do is informed by that."

Her key message for U of G members about the impact of the legislation is: Don't panic — and look to learn about FIPPA through resource materials and training sessions provided through her office.

So far, that office has handled one FIPPA request — from a prospective student looking for information about materials such as reference letters used in evaluating the candidate's application. In that case, the University was obliged to release only the candidate's own application material and information about selection criteria used to assess and admit applicants, says Hodgkinson.

Pointing out that this particular query mirrored a number of requests fielded by high-demand and professional programs at other Ontario universities since FIPPA was enacted, she says: "Universities are using FIPPA to protect the reference process."

She says U of G units that are reviewing their privacy and access policies and practices since the new legislation was implemented include Alumni Affairs and Development, Registrar Services and Hospitality Services.

Hodgkinson has also discussed the issue with U of G's student governments. "The average student will see no difference, but they'll get a stronger tool to raise questions about protection of privacy or access to information."

She says faculty and staff across campus may need to review how they share information about students with, say, reporters asking for comments for a news story or with emergency services when students need medical help or hospitalization.

Hodgkinson notes that people seeking information informally should first approach the pertinent academic or administrative unit. If that is unsuccessful, or if clarification is needed as to what information should be released or withheld, people should contact the University secretary's office, she says.

"It's helpful to remember that no one must use FIPPA provisions to request and/or receive information from the University. Routine requests — verbal and written — don't have to be funnelled through the FIPPA process. The key will be in handling non-routine inquiries and those that present themselves from the outset as FIPPA requests."

Departments that receive non-routine requests or identified FIPPA requests should contact the University Secretariat.

Besides Hodgkinson, the secretariat includes Chris Graves, who joined the University this summer as records management co-ordinator. An information management specialist, he is working with members of the U of G community on systems and practices for collecting and storing personal information and administrative records, partly to enable the University to respond appropriately and efficiently to access-to-information requests. He is also providing training to U of G community members on the new FIPPA requirements.

The secretariat has developed a website with practical information about privacy and access provisions and handling FIPPA requests. The University's policy statement about protection of privacy and access to information is available at www.uoguelph.ca/info/privacyguidelines. For more information, visit www.uoguelph.ca/secretariat/privacy.shtml or call Ext. 56760.

Presidential Review Committee Appointed

SIX MEMBERS of the U of G community have been elected by Senate to serve on the review committee for president Alastair Summerlee, whose first term ends June 30, 2008.

The faculty representatives are Profs. Jim Atkinson, Animal and Poultry Science; Janet Wood, Molecular and Cellular Biology; and Barbara Morrongiello, Psychology. The staff representative is

Tom Kendall, director of the Department of Athletics.

Student representatives are undergraduate Jolin Coombs, Central Student Association external commissioner; and graduate student Barbara Caswell of the Department of Animal and Poultry Science.

Chaired by Board of Governors chair Douglas Derry, the committee also includes B of G vice-chairs Rita Burak and Robin-Lee Norris.

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Valerie Poulton

Unearthing Family Histories and Mysteries

U of G history prof to appear on new television genealogy series airing this fall

BY DAVID DICENZO

MOST PROFESSORS have a bit of the thespian in them. Standing up in front of a packed lecture hall or a large conference gathering requires an inherent ability to perform. Prof. Kevin James, History, can relate to that, though he's taken the concept further than most in his field.

In June 2005, James received an unexpected call from a talent scout who was looking for genealogists to work on a TV pilot project called *Ancestors in the Attic*, a History Channel program showcasing everyday Canadians trying to unearth the mysteries of their past.

James, a specialist in Scottish studies, was invited to audition and was soon enveloped in the frantic pace of the entertainment world.

"The audition was like nothing I had ever experienced," he says. "The whole experience was so different—the professional evaluation isn't the same as that applied to academics. I didn't think the audition had gone very well, but then I heard back a few weeks later that I was one of the people they had chosen."

As a panellist featured in the last of three segments on the fast-paced show, James joins with two other genealogists to take viewers on a forensic journey to solve family mysteries, be it the identity of a murder victim or the final resting place of a war hero.

Hundreds of story ideas were submitted from across Canada for the show, and the successful pilot was parlayed into a full season of 15 episodes — 10 of which feature James — with a second season already being planned. Host Jeff Douglas, known for his work in the "I Am Canadian" commercials and the show *Things That Move*, travels



Prof. Kevin James has been poring through library resources in his research for the History Channel show *Ancestors in the Attic*. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

the world with staff genealogist Paul McGrath to help break down the barriers that prevent the people featured on the show from solving their family mysteries. In the final segment of each episode, the panellists offer their analysis of the case and explain how they reached their conclusions.

"I'm amazed that so many people are engaged in the kinds of quests that a lot of historians undertake," says James. "They want to know about their family members, but also the social context. They want to know how their family member fits into much bigger pictures and into the time period they were living in. That's part of the role that I, in particular, play on the show."

He notes that one of the challenges of the show is "distilling these

exceptionally complex stories and weeks of research into very short segments in which we explain the steps we follow and offer advice for people who are undertaking genealogy themselves."

With the show set to debut Oct. 18, James and the *Ancestors in the Attic* crew recently learned that one of the panellists, Ryan Taylor, had died suddenly. Originally from Osbawa, Taylor was a genealogical librarian at Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Ind.

"He was a joy to work with," says James. "I hope the show is in some way a tribute to his skills and research. Ryan did a lot of work behind the scenes to solve some of the protracted problems we encountered."

Despite the sadness surrounding his colleague's death, James says working on the show has been an in-

spiring experience. He's been impressed with the show's crew since they first did the pilot, and that has whetted his appetite for "television genealogy," he says.

The pilot explored the story of an American slave who came to Canada and settled. James knew immediately that the show would involve much more than simply answering a question about someone's family history.

"I found that to be a fascinating story that ended up being as much about the historical period as it was about this individual slave. It could be used to access all kinds of stories about the time period, about Canada and the United States, about slavery and racism, about citizenship. There were so many broader themes. That really stayed with me."

James believes *Ancestors in the Attic* has the potential to introduce ge-

nealogy to a much wider and younger audience. That's important because the best time to become interested in genealogy is when you're young, he says.

"It's a good time to ask questions. If you still have living relatives, it's a lot easier in your teens or your 20s or 30s to find out information than in your 50s and 60s, when you may not have surviving relatives who can answer the questions."

Sometimes those questions get unexpected answers. Through the hectic first season of shooting, James found that results of the individual stories varied dramatically. In some cases, the individuals found what they were looking for. In others, there was no definitive answer, but the family member featured was armed with the tools to get more information. Occasionally, they discovered shocking truths about the family tree that were completely unexpected.

"I like the diverse range of reactions because that mirrors what we all encounter in history research," he says. "We very often encounter surprises, we very often encounter disappointments and we very often take new directions that we hadn't anticipated. In that respect, I think the show has been faithful to the broader experience of people who undertake family history."

Although genealogy intrigues James, he figures most of his work will continue to occur on campus rather than in a studio. A grueling early morning taping schedule, combined with 30-minute makeup sessions and ongoing wardrobe issues, will ultimately prevent him from delving too deeply into the television world.

"I'm glad the University is my day job," he says.

U of G Among Top Ag Research Institutions

U OF G RANKED SEVENTH among universities worldwide for its impact on agricultural sciences during the past decade, according to a study published this summer.

Guelph was the only Canadian university among the top 25 institutions ranked by *Science Watch* for agricultural research from 1996 to 2006.

"Guelph's survey ranking is outstanding — and expected — given the truly breathtaking activity of faculty and staff in agriculture and food sciences," says Ontario Agricultural College dean Craig Pearson.

Agricultural research papers published by U of G investigators were cited just over 8,000 times between 1996 and 2006, behind total citations for the University of Georgia and Iowa State University. The highest-ranked universities for total citations were Wageningen University in the Netherlands (16,370) and the University of California, Davis

(13,554).

Measured by impact, or citations per paper, Guelph was listed 12th among universities worldwide, with 6.99 citations per paper.

Including all research institutions, Guelph placed 12th overall in total citations and 14th in citation impact. The U.S. Department of Agriculture headed the total-citations list with nearly twice that of the second-ranked institution, France's Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique. At the top of the citation impact list were the University of Helsinki (9.05 cites per paper) and Cornell University and the University of Wisconsin (tied at 8.47).

Science Watch is published by Thomson Scientific in Philadelphia. Asked to comment on the rankings, *Science Watch* editor Christopher King said: "The agricultural science research published by Guelph personnel is registering strongly in terms of its influence and significance as viewed by other scientists."

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Taking a Leadership Position

BY REBECCA KENDALL

UOF G STUDENTS are big on helping each other. Each semester, you'll find hundreds of them serving as peer helpers in a diverse range of roles across campus, from staffing information desks and serving on committees to planning major events. Helping them sharpen their leadership skills and position themselves as community visionaries is Jennifer Maddock, leadership education and development (LEAD) adviser in Student Life.

"It's important for universities to foster and encourage a culture of involvement and equip our students with the tools they need to be active citizens," says Maddock, who joined U of G in 2005. "This can take on many different forms, but providing the mentoring and coaching of these skills affords students an opportunity to grow and learn. It also makes the institution a better place to be."

Her duties are as varied as the students she works with. She co-ordinates the peer helper program, serves as an adviser to elected and appointed student representatives, and organizes the annual "Last Lecture" for graduating students. She also implements a wide range of leadership initiatives, including Leadership Week, the Students Actively Involved in Leadership workshop series and the annual Student Leaders Interacting and Collaborating Conference.

Maddock, who holds a BA in women's studies and sociology from Trent University, was acting execu-



Jennifer Maddock aims to equip students with the tools they need to be active citizens. PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

tive director of the Volunteer Centre of Guelph/Wellington before joining U of G. She is accredited in volunteer management by Conestoga College and is a master trainer for Volunteer Canada, an organization that promotes the role and value of volun-

teering in creating a civil society. As a volunteer herself, she has served on a number of committees and boards for various organizations, including the Guelph Community Health Centre, the Ontario Early Years Cen-

tre, the United Way Volunteer Leadership Development Program and the Block Parent Program of Canada.

"I've always found an affinity with grassroots community development organizations," she says. "I think the context within the LEAD portfolio really isn't all that different because many clubs and groups are born out of a student-identified need. We have passionate students working towards a goal to improve their circumstances and that of other students."

As co-ordinator of the peer helper program, Maddock is responsible for promoting it on campus, managing the program budget, reviewing applications, selecting and training new peers, monitoring placements and exploring new initiatives that will benefit the program.

Early in September, she ran a core training session for 72 new peer helpers and is currently overseeing 230 students who've been screened to commit five to 10 hours of service each week in one of 25 units on campus, including the Aboriginal Resource Centre, the Learning Commons and the Neighbourhood Relations Office.

"We all have gifts to share — it's just a matter of finding the right match at the right time and place," she says. "It's different for everyone, but collectively we can accomplish great things."

Peer helpers must commit to at least three semesters of involvement, says Maddock, and in return, they

gain a number of marketable skills, including public speaking, communication, conflict resolution and project initiation and management.

People who volunteer are often seeking new learning experiences and the opportunity to meet new people or connect with their communities on a deeper level, she says.

"It's important to be mindful of this when engaging volunteers because knowing the personal motivator of an individual is the key to retention."

For peer helpers, recognition also plays a big role in retention, says Maddock, who regularly plans appreciation events for program participants. "It's just one small way we can let the peers know we appreciate their efforts."

Her own involvement in volunteerism began at age four when she joined her mother in a walk-a-thon to raise funds for a Rotary group. Today, she and her partner, Brian, often seek out volunteer jobs that their children, Niamh, 5, and Fionn, 2, can also participate in. Niamh, for example, delivers copies of a neighbourhood newsletter and stuffs envelopes for other organizations.

"There are things that people, no matter how old they are, can do to build self-esteem and be active in their communities," says Maddock. "It's important for all of us to do what we can to develop the potential of our young people, whether as parents or as professionals. I can't imagine anything more valuable than that."

Enhancement Fund Supports U of G's Undergraduate Learning Environment

Inaugural grants awarded to 13 projects ranging from Guelph Near Space Initiative to case study of new Future Inns hotel

BY LORI BONA HUNT

THIRTEEN CAMPUS projects aimed at strengthening undergraduate engagement and academic success have received \$300,000 in support from the University's new Learning Enhancement Fund (LEF).

The fund was created to support initiatives arising from the integrated planning process and the curriculum renewal process. It's supported by the Priority Investment Fund (also established as part of integrated planning), which reallocates a percentage of total college budgets to resources that are considered among the University's strategic priorities.

"The LEF is central to integrated planning and a critical tool in our ongoing efforts as a community to strengthen the learning environment for undergraduate students," says Prof. Alan Shepard, associate vice-president (academic). "This was our inaugural call for proposals for LEF grants, and we're delighted by the creativity and innovativeness that people have displayed. In fact, we had so many high-quality submissions that it ended up being a very competitive selection process."

In total, there were 40 submissions, and 13 received grants in this first round.

"Ultimately, the students are the ones who end up benefiting from the process because the projects that emerged with LEF grants show

great promise as new initiatives or are ideas that will significantly strengthen existing programs," Shepard says.

Some examples of projects receiving LEF grants are:

- The Guelph Near Space Initiative, where students design, build and launch a series of suborbital balloons to study high-altitude chemical, physical and/or biological processes. The goal is to give students the opportunity to consider "what if" scenarios and perform studies that aren't accessible via conventional laboratory exercises. Chemistry professor Paul Rowntree received \$10,000 to head the project, which will include five other U of G faculty.
- Creating a new dynamic online learning platform in the College of Biological Science. Biology News Network will focus on first-year biology and increase integration; co-ordinate course, campus and world news; and promote inquiry-based learning within a student-friendly atmosphere. CBS program counsellor Dawn Larson and Prof. Brian Husband, Integrative Biology, received \$61,505 to support this project.
- A student-run business consulting service that allows students to gain experience working for real clients on substantial managerial-level business research, analysis and

planning projects, and to practise applying the business knowledge they have gained. This graded elective project will be run entirely by senior students in the College of Management and Economics. Marketing and consumer studies professor Paulette Padanyi received \$20,000 for the initiative.

- A case study of the new Future Inns hotel adjacent to the University. It will track all phases of decision-making and construction up to the hotel opening in June 2007, and remain active into the next decade, tracking the life cycles of a hotel and the facility management. The case study will be used in at least eight courses in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM). Prof. Iain Murray received \$10,000 for the project. In addition, two new HTM courses received support. Prof. Stephen Lynch was awarded \$15,000 to create a capstone course that emphasizes analytic, problem solving and decision-making skills to managers entering the hospitality and tourism industry. Prof. Joan Flaherty received \$12,000 for a new course on managerial professionalism in a globalized industry.

- A project to enrich the diversity of course materials and approaches to learning in the area of literary and cultural studies on social justice. Students will be able to design and

produce websites, community radio programs, self-published "zines" and documentary videos. This will build on programs offered by the School of English and Theatre Studies that are interdisciplinary and multicultural and encourage students to explore fields such as human rights, social justice, border studies, and media and communications across numerous geopolitical borders, cultures and genres. Profs. Mark Lipton, Martha Nandorfy and Ajay Heble received \$24,000 for this project.

Proposals for LEF grants could come from faculty or staff in any college, department or academic support unit that reports to the provost. The only requirement was that projects strengthen undergraduate teaching and learning in demonstrable ways. It was also important to show how the initiatives would support learning experiences that cross department and college boundaries and pursue systemic innovation, renewal and experimentation.

"We also looked for projects that demonstrated sustainability and the potential to grow and to be supported financially beyond the initial grant," says Shepard.

All grant recipients must turn in a final report on their activities and project outcomes, and the projects must be resubmitted to be considered for subsequent funding.

Student Governments Provide Strong Voices

At Guelph looks at four key student groups on campus

BY REBECCA KENDALL

STUDENT GOVERNMENTS have existed at U of G since its earliest days and have grown in number and size along with the University. Despite the longevity of these groups and their involvement on campus, many students don't know what the various governments do. Here's a look at four key ones — the Central Student Association (CSA), the Graduate Students' Association (GSA), Interhall Council and Student Senate Caucus.

The CSA represents the biggest number of students at Guelph — close to 16,000 undergraduates. Operating out of an office on the second floor of the University Centre, it provides advocacy for undergraduate students in academics and housing issues and gets involved in the community by taking part in social, environmental and human rights advocacy programs and events.

"It's important that undergraduate students at Guelph have a strong and unified voice to look out for their well-being at the University, in the community and at the provincial and federal levels," says CSA communications commissioner Jonathan Odumeru. Joining him on the CSA executive for 2006/07 are John Coombs (external commissioner), Chris Killer (finance and human resources commissioner), Bre Walt (local affairs commissioner) and Becky Wallace (academic commissioner).

The CSA oversees student clubs, health and dental plans, SafeWalk, the Meal Exchange program, the campus food bank, a bike centre, the Bullring and www.thecannon.ca, a website that provides news, information and a buy, sell and find section. It also sponsors concerts and pubs, brings speakers to campus, runs a film series and produces the annual *CSA Daytimer*.

"I think students often aren't sure what we do and don't realize the scope of our involvement in student life," says Odumeru, noting that the CSA employs nearly 30 full- and part-time staff and has a board of governors that includes students from each college, plus representatives from a number of campus organizations. Board meetings are held six times a semester and are open to the public. The CSA welcomes input from undergraduate students and encourages anyone with questions or concerns to get in touch with the executive, says Odumeru. "We're all very friendly and open."

For more information, visit csaonline.ca, call Ext. 56748 or send e-mail to Odumeru at csatalk@uoguelph.ca.

Mandated to advocate for the rights and needs of Guelph's nearly 2,000 graduate students, the GSA operates out of an office on the fifth floor of the University Centre. Like the CSA, it is managed by a board of governors, which consists of an elected core executive, plus representatives from each academic department on campus with a graduate program.



GSA executive, from left, Pete Anderson, Keron Dave, Kumudinie Kariyapperuma and Mike Schumaker. Missing is Claudia Schmidt.



Interhall central executive, from left, Andrew MacKendrick, Cathleen Yoo, Cara Lategan, Kim Svela and Jakki Doyle.

"We take pride in the fact that our job is to make the graduate experience easier and more enjoyable for our members," says GSA vice-president internal Keron Dave. Also on this year's executive are Pete Anderson (president), Mike Schumaker (vice-president finance), Kumudinie Kariyapperuma (vice-president external) and Claudia Schmidt (vice-president activities and media).

"Grad concerns are often much different from those of undergraduates, and that's where the GSA comes into the picture," says Dave. "Grad students are typically more degree-driven. Also, a greater percentage of our members have families and therefore have different financial needs and expectations in terms of what kinds of services and entertainment we provide for them."

The GSA offers its members health and dental plans, bus passes and day planners and provides financial assistance by offering travel grants and child-care and compassionate bursaries to those who qualify. It also operates the Grad Lounge, a popular campus meeting spot that serves food and beverages and organizes a number of events each year. Dave notes that the lounge is now offering wireless Internet.

"Our top priority is to keep our members happy, and we constantly work towards that," she says.

The GSA and U of G's Neighbourhood Relations Office are planning a joint venture aimed at developing a peer support group,

primarily geared to students with children, she adds.

The GSA is open to all graduate students and meets monthly. This semester's meetings are slated for Oct. 25, Nov. 22 and Dec. 13, all beginning at 5:30 p.m. in Room 441 of the UC. For more information visit www.uoguelph.ca/gsa, call Ext. 53314/56685 or send e-mail to gsapres@uoguelph.ca.

A valuable resource for the 5,100 students who live on campus is Interhall Council, a 60-member elected student government that provides advocacy and programming especially designed for students living in residence. Interhall consists of six central executive members, 12 hall presidents and 42 hall executives. The presidents and central executive meet each week to discuss a variety of issues.

Interhall's role is to advocate on behalf of residents by participating in more than 30 University committees and communicating with its constituent student groups, the University administration, the community and other student groups. In addition, Interhall works to foster leadership in residences and organizes educational, cultural and social events within each residence and throughout campus. It also produces *Herd the Word*, a residence student newspaper, and represents the University at provincial and international residence association conferences.

"Our organization is specific to



Student Senate Caucus co-chairs Dian Chaaban and Derek Pieper.

PHOTOS BY REBECCA KENDALL



CSA executive members, from left, Jonathan Odumeru, John Coombs and Chris Killer. Missing are Bre Walt and Becky Wallace.

residence life on campus," says Interhall president Jakki Doyle. Also on this year's central executive are vice-presidents Cathleen Yoo (internal), Kim Svela (activities), Andrew MacKendrick (communications) and Cara Lategan (operations). "We liaise with other organizations and administration on campus to ensure that the best interests of residence students are voiced."

Interhall has a seat on the CSA board and collaborates with other student governments on large-scale events such as Orientation Week.

"Interhall is a very important campus organization," says Doyle. "Many students spend one or more years of their life in residence, and they should get involved in the decisions that affect their environment."

To learn more about Interhall, visit www.uoguelph.ca/interhall, call Ext. 58304, send e-mail to ihc@uoguelph.ca or drop by the office at the Prairie Hall underpass.

Providing advocacy on academic issues is the mandate of Student Senate Caucus, a group made up of elected student senators who represent students in their respective degree programs on issues related to academic quality and policy. Each student senator is a member of the caucus, which meets prior to each University Senate meeting to discuss and share information about the Senate agenda items.

Student Senate Caucus helps new student senators understand the University's governance structure,

says Derek Pieper, who co-chairs the caucus with Dian Chaaban.

"When it comes to understanding University academic policy, students are at a disadvantage because they don't have the same Senate experience as faculty members who have been around the system for a number of years," says Pieper. "Our caucus meetings are an opportunity for members to share information about proposed policy changes so they can make informed decisions when it comes time to vote."

Student senators are well-recognized around campus from their other involvements, but are not necessarily known as members of Student Senate Caucus, he says. Members are often involved in other leadership positions on campus, such as with the CSA and GSA, Interhall and college governments.

"The caucus is important because it facilitates collaboration among student senators so we can provide an effective student voice and appropriate student representation on the various Senate subcommittees."

Currently there is a need for graduate student senators to represent OVC, the College of Arts and the College of Biological Science, and undergraduate student senators to represent the bachelor of computing and general studies programs.

For more information, visit www.studentsenators.uoguelph.ca, call Ext. 52359, send e-mail to ssc@uoguelph.ca or drop by Room 242 of the UC.

The Numbers Behind Nature

Canada Research Chair brings math smarts to biology

BY ANDREW VOWLES

WHAT DO NUMBERS have to do with bacterial biofilms? Asked to trace the connections between math and the growth of slime layers on surfaces, Prof. Hermann Eberl, Mathematics and Statistics, smiles as if he'd expected the question. Indeed, his answer appears in the short description of his research on the website of the Canada Research Chairs (CRC) program.

"This goes back to Galileo," says Eberl, who was named a CRC in Applied Mathematics in Life Science and Engineering this summer. "Math is the language in which we formulate scientific theory."

The thicket of equations scrawled on his office blackboard is his way of describing something of the natural world outside the MacNaughton Building. Eberl uses those equations to model, analyse and simulate processes in biology and engineering, from the growth of "good" and "bad" biofilms to solid waste digestion to stormwater treatment.

His primary interest passed a milestone this spring when he published — along with researchers from the United States and Europe — a new book called *Mathematical Modelling of Biofilms*.

He explains that more than 90 per cent of bacteria live in biofilms, layers of microbes growing on surfaces. The good ones remove pollutants from water, aiding in nutrient cycling and in purifying water. The bad guys may foul engineering systems or food and also cause infection in people, including anything from dental plaque to cystic fibrosis.

Eberl has worked with Robin McKellar, a microbiologist with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and adjunct professor in the Department of Food Science, on models of microbial food safety. He also brings math modelling smarts to the Advanced Foods and Materials Network, one of Canada's Networks of Centres of Excellence based at Guelph.

He works with Prof. Bahram Gharabaghi, Engineering, on improving ways to handle pollutants in the treatment of stormwater. And Eberl has applied math modelling to explain the uneven nature of processes occurring in anaerobic digestion of solid waste.

Referring to the applications of his models, he says: "Here's the system — what's the math we can use to describe it?"

An avid student of the history of science, he explains his varied interests by drawing on the words of anyone from Galileo to D'Arcy Wentworth Thompson, a Scottish zoologist and mathematician whose 1917 book, *On Growth and Form*, laid the foundation for studying nature through mathematics. Experiment and observation are one thing, says Eberl, but it's mathematical modelling that allows the scientist to begin making predictions about the natural world, from weather forecasts to flood predictions.



Prof. Hermann Eberl studies the mathematics of biofilms.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

He studied math and environmental engineering at the Munich University of Technology in his native Germany. Following a post-doc in the Netherlands, he pursued his interests in mathematical modelling at a national research lab back in Munich before coming to Guelph in 2003 as a SHARCNET Research Chair in Biocomputing.

Besides running the Computational Biomathematics Lab along with his graduate students and a post-doctoral researcher, Eberl be-

longs to the Biomathematics and Biostatistics Working Group and to Ecology@Guelph.

"We have here a unique emphasis on biomathematics in the department and in the University's life sciences history," he says.

Eberl lives in Hamilton, where he and his wife, Laura, have recently renovated a house to accommodate not just their son but also a stream of foster children. "It's a tangible contribution, something that matters," he says.

Ontario Research Fund Supports Nine Projects

Studies will make a difference in Canadians' lives

THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT is investing nearly \$1.3 million in leading-edge research at the University of Guelph. The nine projects being funded are headed by faculty from six different departments, and four involve neuroscience research, an area that's growing quickly at Guelph.

"The support from the province for these researchers will help reinforce their ability to make a difference in the health and lives of Canadians," says Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research).

Prof. Linda Parker, a behavioural neuroscientist who joined the Department of Psychology in July as a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair, received \$422,793 to support her work on the psychopharmacology and neurobiology of learning, emotion, sickness and addiction.

Also conducting neuroscience research are husband-and-wife duo Carol and John Armstrong of the Department of Biomedical Sciences. Carol Armstrong was awarded \$124,906 to study the development of pattern formation in the cerebellum. John Armstrong will use his \$124,773 to study presynaptic mechanisms that control how neurotransmitters in the brain are released.

Another neuroscientist, Prof. Roberto Poma of the Department of

Clinical Studies, received \$80,836 for his research on epilepsy in humans and dogs.

Other researchers receiving support are:

- Prof. Pawel Bartlewski, Biomedical Sciences, \$117,000 to continue his work on the development and fate of ovarian structures in sheep and cattle;
- Prof. Andrea Buchholz, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, \$159,594 to help establish a human body composition and energy metabolism lab;
- Prof. Stefano Gregori, Engineering, \$135,004 for a lab to develop new analog integrated circuits and microsystems;
- Prof. Helen Hambly, Environmental Design and Rural Development, \$44,013 for multimedia information and communication research for rural development; and
- Prof. Jaideep Mathur, Molecular and Cellular Biology, \$124,385 for a laser scanning microscope for live imaging of subcellular responses to environmental stimuli.

The funding comes from the Ontario Research Fund and matches financial commitments announced earlier this year by the Canada Foundation for Innovation.

Retooling the Humanities

Campus workshop to examine changing face of humanities research

THE PURSUIT of external funding is one of the things that has changed the face of Canadian academia in both the arts and sciences, says Prof. Smaro Kamboureli, who holds a Canada Research Chair (CRC) in the School of English and Theatre Studies. The ability to secure grants has become an important measuring stick for humanities researchers, and that has had an impact on both the production and dissemination of knowledge coming out of Canadian universities, she says.

This changing paradigm is one of the central themes of a workshop called "The Culture of Research: Retooling the Humanities," to be held on campus Oct. 20 to 22. It kicks off with a public forum running from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the Arboretum Centre. Sponsored by Kamboureli, the TransCanada Institute she heads, U of G and McMaster University CRC Daniel Coleman, the forum will be chaired by Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research). Presenters are Guelph professor Donna Palmateer Pennec, associate dean of arts and science; University of Mani-

toba CRC Diana Brydon; and University of New Brunswick professor Wendy Robbins.

"The question of external funding is definitely crucial, and I expect it will be raised as a main issue at the forum," says Kamboureli, "but equally if not more important is the question of what are the ethical, social and political implications of the ways research in the humanities is instrumentalized."

The impetus for the forum is twofold, she says. First, scholars have a vested interest in how research is produced, disseminated and institutionalized, as well as why some projects are deemed more viable than others. Second, the general public has had trouble understanding the

value of humanities research.

Kamboureli says the transformation of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council from a granting council to a knowledge council marked a turning point.

"That process galvanized humanities scholars and raised many questions," she says.

Forum participants will be encouraged to address a variety of topics, including the paradigms and conditions that shape the humanities today, how the humanities "retool" themselves and the subsequent impact on academic life and work, the application and evaluation processes of funding agencies, and what the term "innovation" entails and how it can be measured.

These kinds of issues have intrigued Kamboureli since she was a young academic.

"In some ways, I think the particular kinds of pressures the humanities are under today began at the time of the 1980s recession, when the pressure for fiscal responsibility gave rise to the discourse of accountability and its various guises. I became increasingly aware of the utilitarian emphasis placed on the kind of research humanists pursue. We hope the forum will create an intensive and sustained dialogue on all these issues."

To register for the forum, which will be followed by a reception, send e-mail to transcan@uoguelph.ca.



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Coming Through Slaughter

After enduring horrors of civil war in her homeland, student finds hope at U of G

By REBECCA KENDALL

IT'S BEEN NEARLY seven years since Rose Marie Koroma ran for her life through the dark streets of Freetown, Sierra Leone, with her mother and young cousin by her side, but the memories of that life-changing night remain fresh. At 26, Koroma is a first-year biological science student at U of G and, for the first time in years, is feeling confident about her future.

She was in her final year of high school when Sierra Leone's decade-long civil war intensified with a horrific midnight siege of Freetown. The daughter of well-educated parents (her father had attended university in England, and her mother, a dental assistant and technician, had studied in the United States), Koroma had dreamed of becoming a doctor and had recently applied to study at Fourah Bay College at the University of Sierra Leone.

That all changed with one phone call. It was the night of Jan. 6, 1999, and on the other end of the line was a family friend who lived on the edge of town advising the Koromas that rebel troops were headed toward the city. The rebel forces, the Revolutionary United Front, had been battling the Sierra Leonean government for political power since 1991 and were aggressively stepping up their offensive with a massive civilian attack on the nation's capital city that would leave thousands dead or wounded.

The Koromas, who were always aware this day might come, made plans to leave their home and find a safe place to go until the conflict died down.

"My sister, my cousin and I dressed like boys to disguise ourselves because the rebels were looking for young teenage girls to take into the bush and rape," says Koroma. "My brothers thought they could hide in the ceiling of the house, but when our friend told us the rebels were setting houses on fire, we knew this wasn't possible."

The family packed some belongings and were ready to leave when they heard gunfire outside their door. Within seconds, the rebels entered the house from two directions and demanded to know the whereabouts of Koroma's father, a top-ranking government official who was on the mob's list of intentional targets. The rebels, some as young as 12 and 13, lined up Koroma, her mother, her cousin and her three siblings and threatened the entire family with death.

"My mom begged them not to kill us and offered them whatever we had in the house. She started crying and my dad came out. They tied him up and started to beat him. The rest of us were held at gunpoint and couldn't do anything. He lost consciousness and died in a coma."

That is Koroma's final memory of her father, whom she describes as "a man of the people" and a person who would help anyone in need. The man who held him while the others tied him up was someone her father had helped in the past and had considered a loyal friend, she says.

The mob left, and seeing an opportunity to flee, the family ran. Koroma went with her mother and cousin, her sister ran away on her own, and her two brothers headed off together.

"We don't know to this day what gave us the sense to run," says Koroma. "I told myself: 'I'm not going to die here.'" All I



didn't eat at all."

It was a humbling experience for Koroma and her family, who were once among the elite in Sierra Leone, she says. Both her self-esteem and her dream of becoming a doctor were quickly fading. Without money, education isn't possible in Africa, she says.

"Africa is not like Canada, where if you're not in school, you can go look for a job to provide for your family. Every day I cried when I woke up because there was nothing I could do to make things better."

Her mother, seeing her daughter's sorrow, asked the camp's doctor if Koroma could work alongside him. He agreed, and for the next year she greeted incoming patients, administered HIV/AIDS and pregnancy tests and helped the doctor with some of the physical examinations. The doctor gave her hope, she says, and he also proved to be her family's ticket out of Gambia by telling them how to apply to the U.S. and Canadian governments for assistance programs.

Just as a life-changing phone call advised them of the danger that was coming to Freetown, it was a phone call that told them their lives were about to change once more. Koroma's mother was visited by an official from the refugee camp, who told her she had a call from Canada.

"We wondered who could possibly be calling from Canada," says Koroma. "We thought that maybe we'd been lucky enough to have someone sponsor us to go to school."

Instead, her mother returned in tears after taking the call. The family was being offered much more than funding for school. They were being sponsored by members of Guelph's St. Matthias Church and Southwood United Church and were moving to Canada.

"We were so happy," says Koroma. "It was an answer to our prayers. We were given an opportunity to have something better for ourselves and to do something better for the world. The night before we left Africa, none of us could sleep. And we were too excited to eat. We spent the night talking and imagining what we would do with our lives. It was a wonderful moment for us."

The family knew nothing of Canada when they arrived in January 2005. Koroma laughs as she recalls the family's first weeks here as they learned about Canadian people, the culture and the climate.

"One thing I know about Canadians is that they don't think only of themselves," she says.

Shortly after her arrival, she took a full-time job and began to take classes to prepare for university in Canada. Now at U of G among her younger classmates, she says she's reminded of what it's like to be a teenager again and has a renewed sense of hope for the bright future that almost passed her by.

"This is a dream that I thought would never come. Every day I wake up and am so excited to come to school. My main purpose now is to get an education and to help the people who need me, not only in Africa but also wherever there is suffering. I always looked forward to university before the war broke out in my country. And if it weren't for the war, I wouldn't be here. We make plans for ourselves, but God always has a better plan."

thought of was escape. I was not going to stand there and be killed."

It was about 2 a.m., and Koroma, her mother and cousin travelled for 10 hours until they found a place where they thought they could rest safely. The next thing she remembers was being nudged awake by her cousin and hearing the voices of rebels who had discovered them.

"They had guns and would have had no problem killing us if they'd wanted to," she says. But once again their lives were spared.

With thoughts of the missing siblings, Koroma, her mother and cousin travelled west by foot, taking shelter wherever they could find it and clenching tightly to their faith in God. As they passed by rebels, they would say they supported the rebels and were simply out looking for food.

"We couldn't tell them we were running away, so we had to make up lies. We didn't really even know where we were going."

Their journey was a grisly one. They found themselves stepping over dead bodies, seeing vultures and wild animals eating the dead, watching people being burned alive and hearing of children being stolen from their parents, says Koroma.

By the end of January, they had circled around and made their way to her grandparents' home on the western side of Freetown, where her three siblings had also arrived safely.

"This was the only region the rebels didn't invade because it's close to the president's house and the government alliance forces were based at that end of the city," she says.

The family left Sierra Leone for Gambia and spent the next three years living in a refugee camp. Recalling her years in the camp overwhelms Koroma. Her voice becomes soft as her eyes fill with tears.

"I'm sorry," she says before taking a moment to compose herself. "It was just too much to bear. The situation was deplorable, and the conditions were the worst you could imagine."

The family of six lived in a one-room tent-like shelter. It had no bathroom, and the extreme temperature changes that are typical of Gambia's highlands were hard to endure, she says. The family slept on thin mattresses on the ground and had no regular food supply or money. "There were many days that we

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWABER



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Team to Create New Walk of Fame

'Forest of lights' will showcase Canadian celebrities

BY ANDREW VOWLES

IN A MEETING OF STARS and the northern lights, a design team including a U of G landscape architecture professor has won a competition to create a new Walk of Fame in Toronto's theatre district.

The team led by Toronto's pgm Design Associates topped 14 entries this summer with a project design whose light columns, illuminated walkways, video walls and trees will create a "forest of lights" intended to showcase more than 100 Canadian celebrities, including Karen Kain, Wayne Gretzky, Jim Carrey and William Hutt.

"We want to excite people and make an animated urban space," says Prof. Nancy Pollock-Ellwand, School of Environmental Design and Rural Development, who earned her BLA at U of G. Other members of "Team Northern Lights" are also Guelph grads, including pgm's principal, Pat Morrello, and associates Andrew Anderson and Lori Ellis. Derek Wekers, BLA '97, helped in the project's early stages. Mansoor Ma, an expert in 3-D visualization techniques, completed a BLA here and is now a graduate student at U of G.

The team is now consulting on implementing the \$5-million project, called Celebration Park, along a stretch of King Street West near Roy Thomson Hall and the Royal Alex and Princess of Wales theatres. The park is intended to remain prominent year-round, unlike the existing Walk of Fame — established in 1998 — whose Hollywood-style stars embedded in the sidewalk pavement were often snow-covered or generally went unnoticed by visitors.

The project will use varied lighting techniques and devices to evoke the atmospheric light show of Northern Canada, says Pollock-Ellwand. She expects the new one-hectare site will also encourage visitors to think about how the country's natural landscape and aurora borealis help define the Canadian identity.

What makes Canada distinctive? "It's probably the landscape," says Pollock-Ellwand, whose recent work includes several projects in Canada's Arctic. In Nunavut, she has worked on interpretive designs for recreational trails in Uvajuq and participated in master planning for a whaling station at Kekerten. Currently, she is helping the territorial government develop conservation policies for cultural landscapes.

Her interest in cultural landscapes took her to Japan for three months earlier this year as a visiting scholar at the University of Tokyo. There, she helped on a landscape restoration and conservation project in Ohmi-Hachiman, a community near Kyoto whose ancient canal system and merchant houses hark back to the city's historical role as a major Japanese trading centre. She also led a community effort to conserve a largely untouched historical neighbourhood in downtown Tokyo.

The trip was Pollock-Ellwand's second extended stay in Japan, where she had worked as an architect with Shimizu Corp. in Tokyo in the 1980s. She returned to Canada to join U of G, bringing back her research and design interests to the country that the Japanese — perhaps fittingly for Pollock-Ellwand — call "Big Nature."

Ontario Genomics Institute Summer Fellowship Opens Research Doors for Student

Biochemistry major gains experience in genomics at Hospital for Sick Children

BY ANDREW VOWLES

HELPING TO TEASE out the genetic mysteries behind a rare inherited disorder was the goal of a biochemistry co-op student under an award from the Ontario Genomics Institute (OGI) in Toronto this summer.

Fourth-year student Lauren Van Der Kraak received one of five OGI Summer Fellowships worth \$4,500. The award allows students to gain experience in genomics, proteomics and bioinformatics during a 14-week research project. Fellows take part in a journal club, attend regular meetings with scientists and learn about genomics technology as well as ethical, economic, environmental, legal and social issues of research. They also present their findings to other scientists.

"I was ecstatic," says Van Der Kraak, who used the fellowship during her eight-month co-op placement at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children.

Working with ophthalmologist Elise Héon, she studied BBS9, a gene associated with Bardet-Biedl Syndrome (BBS). This disorder, which affects one in 160,000 people, causes retinal dystrophy, obesity, extra digits, learning disabilities and renal abnormalities.

By studying DNA from patients of various ethnicities, Héon hopes to learn more about BBS and develop better detection, screening and treatment options.

Van Der Kraak used molecular biology techniques to analyse DNA and match that genetic information with the clinical signs of the disorder. This summer, the lab found five new mutations in a region of patients' DNA coding for a pertinent protein.

"It looks like three of the five mutations are associated with the disease," she says.

Knowing more about the genetic

underpinnings of the disorder may help in predicting symptoms and recommending treatment or lifestyle changes, or in genetic counselling. "It was nice to realize that this work contributed results that will be useful," she says.

Jenea Bin, also a fourth-year biochemistry co-op student, worked in the same lab at the Hospital for Sick Children this year.

Earlier, Van Der Kraak volunteered in the on-campus lab of her father, Glen, a faculty member in the Department of Integrative Biology, and completed a co-op term in the National Microbiology Laboratory in Winnipeg.

After graduating in fall 2007, she plans to apply to medical school and hopes to practise pediatric medicine and conduct research.

Established in 2000, OGI is a private not-for-profit corporation that aims to build a globally competitive life sciences industry in Ontario.

Day a Tribute to Rural Women

Research alliance launches website to broaden rural women's access to information

BY LORI BONA HUNT

WORLD RURAL Women's Day is Oct. 15, but rural women probably won't find time to celebrate. They're too busy working in fields, factories and hospitals and taking care of their families to take a day off, says Prof. Belinda Leach, Sociology and Anthropology. But

urbanites should pause and pay homage to working rural women everywhere, says Leach, holder of the University Research Chair in Rural Gender Studies.

"These women's work sustains our urban lives. Yet urban people rarely recognize this. World Rural Women's Day is a great opportunity for urbanites to think about and recognize the work of rural women."

Leach also directs the Rural Women Making Change (RWMC) community/university research alliance based in Guelph. The \$1-million national project, supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, is a blend of advocacy, research and knowledge dissemination. It involves professors, leading feminist scholars, national unions, volunteers and advocates and community organizations.

Leach and her team stress the diversity of rural women's work in Canada: as automotive assembly and parts workers; as clerical, janitorial and food-service workers; as teachers, nurses and nurses aides; and working in the meat-packing industry, to name just a few.

For rural life in Canada continues to change, and women seem to be bearing the brunt of rural economic transformation, says Leach. Women are simultaneously dealing with disappearing social services, declining farm incomes and fewer employment and schooling options. Many hold down full-time jobs both on and off the farm while continuing to be the primary caregivers of children and elderly relatives. In addition, in some rural communities, services

once offered by various levels of government are now provided by women through local resource centres on a volunteer basis, she says.

"The issues that are of concern to these women — child care, transportation, good pay and benefits, freedom from violence at home and shelters when they need them, training and other options for their daughters, and access to health and information resources — are rarely the priorities of urban-focused policy-makers."

The alliance's overarching goal is to identify challenges specific to rural women and to examine better approaches to meeting needs. It also aims to help empower them to influence public policy at all levels of government. Already, RWMC teams have produced resources for rural women, including a workshop for women wanting to work in manufacturing jobs, a "GURALzine" for rural girls and new training options.

In celebration of World Rural Women's Day, RWMC is launching a major resource for rural women's organizations, policy-makers and academics: an interactive website. Located at www.rwmc.uoguelph.ca, it is designed to help rural women who have limited access to each other and the information they need. "It directly addresses the isolation and invisibility that many rural women experience," Leach says.

Among other things, the website contains cutting-edge research findings, resources on Canadian rural women and their organizations, an online version of "GURALzine" and an events database.

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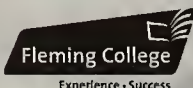
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Please, Please Don't Eat the Azaleas

New OVC 'toxic garden' will help students, clinicians diagnose plant toxicities in animals

BY ANDREW VOWLES

IT SOUNDS LIKE a who's who of botanical fiends. Lily-of-the-valley, foxglove and monkshood can all be deadly to pets, livestock and humans. Bleeding heart contains chemicals that can poison cattle. And the common yew tree can cause fatal heart arrhythmia in livestock, dogs and people. Why would anyone choose to plant these and similar nasty specimens in a teaching garden at the Ontario Veterinary College?

The new OVC "toxic garden" is intended to teach people about common plant species that may be poisonous to animals, says Melanie Philbin, a second-year DVM student and a member of the Guelph student chapter of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists (ACVP).

Guelph's new teaching resource garden covers about one-third of the fully enclosed and restricted-access courtyard garden, located between the Pathobiology Building and the Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH) in the middle of the OVC building complex.

The idea for the garden caught on after Prof. Margaret Stalker, Pathobiology, spoke to the student group last fall about the effects of toxic plants. Animals routinely sicken and even die after ingesting various plants in home gardens or

farm pastures, says Stalker, who is the chapter's co-mentor for the project along with departmental colleague Prof. Dorothee Bienzle.

Working in OVC's post-mortem room this summer, for example, third-year DVM student and chapter member Colette Larocque saw necropsies on three horses poisoned by yew clippings left in a field. In another case this year, three cows out of a herd of 30 died after eating tansy ragwort in a pasture.

Veterinarians are expected to be able to recognize common plant toxicities in various animal species even as a packed DVM curriculum leaves less room for all the details. In response, a handful of veterinary schools across North America have developed teaching resource gardens, including a poisonous plants garden at Cornell University and the poisonous plants garden and database at the University of Illinois.

This spring, members of the University's Grounds Department and the ACVP student chapter designed and landscaped the space, including adding topsoil and mulch and screening for pathways. (Most of the previous plantings along the northwest corner of the site had been destroyed by rodent damage.) Students will maintain the garden.

The site includes Ontario native

plants such as white snakeroot, mayapple and jack-in-the-pulpit, as well as exotics that have spread as weeds, such as tansy ragwort. It also includes nursery, garden and forage plants, including a variety of species that may surprise many gardeners who consider them indispensable for landscaping. These include azalea, bleeding heart, lily-of-the-valley, Clematis, delphinium, foxglove, daylily and castor bean.

Still to come are another 20 species, including forage crops such as sweet clover. (Stalker points out that Francis Schofield, a longtime OVC pathologist, discovered in the 1920s that mouldy sweet clover could kill cattle.)

Besides opening eyes to the potential hazards in many backyards, the project is meant to teach students about the often-discriminating effects of certain plants. Chokecherry leaves may be toxic to ruminants, for instance, but not to dogs or people. That yew whose taxine alkaloids may be fatal for many animals is a deer's tasty meal.

"What's one animal's food is another animal's toxin," says Larocque.

The group plans to launch a website with information about the plants from geographic distribution and habitat and identifying features

to toxic principles, susceptible species and clinical signs of intoxication or poisoning. Members will also place interpretive information about individual species and warning signs in the garden itself.

Stalker says that information will help everyone from students to clinicians at the VTH. "They're more prepared to make a diagnosis."

The group has also established connections with the University's Arboretum — which contains a number of larger and different specimens — and the U of G Herbarium in the College of Biological Science. Also involved in the project is Brent Hoff, a clinical pathologist and toxicologist with U of G's Animal Health Laboratory.

Acknowledging concerns about potential hazards to people and animals, Stalker says the garden is completely enclosed, with access only

through two doors. Its isolated location will help prevent seeds from spreading to other parts of campus, and none of the species is likely to cause inhalant allergies.

"It's an ideal site," she says, adding that U of G's Landscape Advisory Committee was also consulted on the project.

Although VTH staff occasionally walk recuperating dogs on the adjacent lawn of the courtyard, the animals are always leashed and little inclined to explore the garden, says Stalker. As an added precaution, the most problematic species for dogs have been planted towards the back of the garden and may even be fenced off if necessary.

Project funding to date has come from the Department of Pathobiology, the Grey-Bruce Veterinarians Association and Harriston veterinarian Terry Fisk.

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JORDAN DUGGAN

First-year criminal justice student

Jordan Duggan has been making a big splash on campus since becoming one of the newest members of the Gryphon swim team. He's in the pool six days a week for two hours each day and competing every week.

"Right now, swimming is a big part of my life," says Duggan, who is gearing up for meets against Queen's, Carleton and Laurentian, as well as the OUA Invitational being hosted by Guelph Oct. 14. "I love to compete," he says.

Other things he loves include movies and music. He was among the thousands who turned out to see *Jackass 2* during its opening weekend. "It was really good," he says. "It was a lot grosser than the first one." He was also among the thousands who tried to get tickets for one of this month's three Tragically Hip shows in Toronto. "I really tried, but didn't get them," says Duggan, who had hoped to buy tickets on the Internet. "It's all right, though, because they play Toronto a lot."

In addition to the Tragically Hip, he is a fan of classic rock bands like Led Zeppelin and Pink Floyd and newer groups like Taking Back Sunday. "I go to a lot of shows and have a different band shirt for every day of the week."



Jordan Duggan

He's also a part-time actor, starring in the many productions of his three-year-old daughter, Gemma. "We play a lot. She has a great imagination and is always casting my wife and me in imaginary scenarios."

Every morning, he rides to work with Gemma on the back of his bike and drops her off at a campus child-care centre before heading to his office in the Axelrod Building.

Fudge is currently reading *Leonardo — The First Scientist*, a biography by Michael White, a former member of the Thompson Twins pop group. He's also reading *The Discoveries* by Alan Lightman. "The author takes the top scientific discoveries of the past century, describes them and includes the original scientific paper for the discovery," says Fudge. "It's not exactly light reading, but it's interesting."

LILIAN SCHAER

Research communications and marketing officer in the Office of Research, joined U of G in 2006

After getting her ears pierced three years ago, Lilian Schaer suddenly became a lot more interested in jewelry. "I never really paid attention to it before, and now it's incredibly addictive," she says.

Instead of buying every set of earrings she liked, she decided to start making her own, and her creativity soon expanded to making bracelets and necklaces. Recently, she's begun working with sterling silver to re-create some of the pieces she's seen in jewelry stores. She spends six or seven hours a week shopping for materials and creating new items. Pieces take anywhere from 15 minutes to several hours, depending on the size and the amount of detail in the pattern.

Six months ago, after finding success in selling her handmade jewelry to friends and family, she started selling it online at www.penblanks.ca, a website she and her husband created to promote his pen-making and wood business.

"We started out originally by marketing the jewelry to guys who were buying wood by suggesting they buy something for their wife," says Schaer. "It's actually been an effective strategy."

She's looking forward to hosting an open house in December in time for the holiday shopping season.



Lilian Schaer



Doug Fudge

DOUG FUDGE

Faculty member in the Department of Integrative Biology since 2005

When Prof. Doug Fudge returned to U of G last year to start teaching, he was surprised to find he could play pick-up hockey with many of the same people he played with a decade ago when he was a master's student.

"Even the time slot is the same," says Fudge, who started playing hockey when he was five and laces up his skates every Thursday afternoon at the twin-pad arena. "It's one of the few organized things I make time for."

New Parking Lot Opens on Campus

Lot to ease traffic congestion at UC

U OF G'S NEWEST PARKING LOT, P42, opened this week on the former site of the Cold Storage Building on South Ring Road, south of the University Centre.

P42 is designed to help alleviate the traffic congestion in front of the UC, the campus's busiest core area, and to reduce pedestrian/vehicle conflicts, says Ian Weir, manager of Parking Services. The entrance and exit to the new lot are from Christie Lane, the road adjacent to Environmental Health and Safety (EHS). There's also an exit onto the one-way U-shaped road that runs in front of the UC.

The multi-purpose lot accommodates 64 vehicles, including accessible-needs clients, service vehicles, visitors, premium parking and reserved spaces for clients visiting EHS and Occupational Health Services. Some of the premium parking spaces in P31 have now reverted to regular parking.

Lights have been installed in the new lot, and sidewalks have been constructed on both sides of the lot that link to the existing sidewalk system.

P42 also includes a drop-off/pick-up area at the east end that has 10-minute "no charge" parking. This was designed to reduce congestion and the blockage of the fire zone in front of the UC, says Weir. A shelter will be installed on the lot to protect people from the elements as they wait for their ride.

Future plans also call for the installation of an outdoor emergency phone similar to those currently used across campus and bicycle racks.

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Alas, Poor Yorick!

Editor's note: This is part of a series of columns highlighting some of the unusual treasures to be found in the U of G Library's Archival and Special Collections.

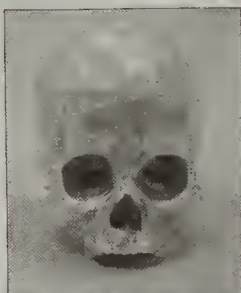
BY ANDREW VOWLES

"AT ITS FIRST curtain call, the skull accentuated its entrance with an ad lib act — numerous teeth fell out and clattered across the stage floor." As if a production of *Hamlet* needed more drama.

Seems you really do get what you pay for, even when what you're buying is Yorick's skull for a stage production of one of Shakespeare's most enduring works. In a clipping contained in a file on Toronto's former Phoenix Theatre, a *Toronto Sun* writer explains that an unnamed props buyer struck gold in the University of Toronto's medical department, but must have ended up with a "lower-class cranium."

Lower class or not, that prop now claims distinction as the only skull contained in the U of G Library's archives. It came to Guelph with other Phoenix items — scripts, photos, reviews, house programs, posters, set designs and sketches — from the theatre's relatively short run between 1975 and 1983.

The material belongs to the library's L.W. Conolly Collection, the largest Canadian theatre collection in the country. Says Lorne



This skull used in the Phoenix Theatre production of *Hamlet* will be coming out of retirement this winter for an exhibition at the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre.

Bruce, head of Archival and Special Collections: "We don't really take props or costumes. The skull was a small article, and we had the ability to box and house it."

Located in a converted warehouse on Dupont Street in Toronto, the 166-seat Phoenix was known for improvisation on a small stage. In 1981, the theatre staged a three-hour production of *Hamlet*.

The title role fell to John Evans, now a producer and director in commercial theatre who puts on events and seminars for corporate clients. Back then, he — and the production — received mixed reviews.

"John Evans will never be ready

— not this time around at least," wrote the *London Free Press*. But the *Toronto Sun* said the "lean, lanky, handsome and romantic" Evans was "well-suited to this most testing of all roles in the Shakespeare canon."

The play was the Phoenix's contribution to that year's Toronto Theatre Festival, a three-week-long event billed in one newspaper advertisement as "the most ambitious theatre festival in Toronto ever." This particular production of *Hamlet* was to be the company's last show after seven years at the Dupont location.

"When a theatre closes, you have to save it," says Bruce. "We were interested in theatre history, and the Phoenix was part of Toronto theatre history along with the Factory Lab, the Open Circle and others."

Alas, the poor Phoenix never rose from the ashes. But Yorick will be resurrected next year. Missing teeth or not, the skull will be included in a special exhibition at the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre from January to May. That exhibition, being curated by art centre director Judith Nasby, will be part of the regional "Shakespeare: Made in Canada" festival to mark a Guelph visit of the Sanders portrait, thought to be the only portrait of Shakespeare painted during his lifetime.



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Math Survival Kit Goes Electronic

Help with mathematics is just a mouse click away

BY ANDREW VOWLES

A POPULAR MATH study guide written by a U of G faculty member has gone electronic. This summer saw the release of an interactive version of the Mathematics Survival Kit, a soft-cover guidebook published three years ago by Prof. Jack Weiner, Mathematics and Statistics.

Weiner wrote the new e-book along with a team from Maplesoft, a mathematics software company based in Waterloo.

The idea arose when the then high school-aged daughter of Maplesoft president James Cooper showed him a copy of Weiner's original guidebook.

"She told her dad how great the book was — clear, engaging," says Tom Lee, a vice-president with Maplesoft. (Alex Cooper arrived at Guelph this semester to begin her studies in biology.)

Maplesoft's CEO contacted Weiner late last year to suggest writing an electronic version, which was released in mid-August.

The new version brings point-and-click technology to a homework study tool on basic math concepts written for students from early high school up. The original 230-page guidebook, published in 2003 by

Thomson Nelson, has sold about 11,000 copies in Canada.

The Maplesoft version includes the book's single-page explanations of more than 100 key topics from Grade 9 through first-year university math, as well as sample questions.

Users navigate through Weiner's folksy explanations of concepts ("Match 'em up! Good for you!"), complete with colourful graphics and clickable questions and answers. Hyper-linked topics allow users to jump among related concepts. By clicking on "More to Explore," students can pull out hundreds of additional questions to extend the topic.

Says Weiner: "This is not meant to be 'teacher-ese.' This is meant to be friendly and approachable. Actually, I wrote it to sound like me tutoring one-on-one."

Maplesoft has produced other electronic study guides, but Lee says this project is the first based on its most recent Maple 10 software. "The content, layout and feedback make this much richer."

Current users of Maple 10 can buy the new Maple edition of the guide for \$36. A bundled package consisting of Maple 10 software, the Maple Mathematics Survival Kit and two Maple study guides costs \$169.

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Arts Profs Make a Difference in Students' Lives

Continued from page 1

his students, he is known for his sincere down-to-earth style.

"I make it pretty clear that I'm a student, just like them," says Gies. "The only difference is that I've continued on in my studies. At the end of the day, I've been through the same trials and tribulations that they're going through."

He notes that the good experiences he had with TAs as an undergraduate have had an impact on how he approaches teaching today.

"I want to make sure that I, in my little way, can help students through the course of their studies."

College of Arts dean Don Bruce says each of this year's award recipients has gone above and beyond what's expected of them in an academic setting. And they've made a difference in their students' lives, he says.

"They have all been able to learn on their own ways to establish that really essential link between the teacher and the student, so that it's more than a one-way transfer. It's a collaboration, a sharing of ideas."

That concept is an integral part of Cornelio's approach. She stresses that the learning process should be participatory, and to that end, she limits the amount of class time de-

voted to lectures, opting for more of a lab setting that engages students. Her passion for teaching translation, language and race and gender issues is clear to her students, many of whom choose her courses just because she's teaching them.

"If I were to sculpt a professor out of clay and bring her to life to inspire today's youth, I could hardly imagine someone better suited for the job," wrote one student in support of her award nomination. "Dawn Cornelio is thought-provoking, edgy, devoted and motivational. She is professional, courteous and approachable."

Cornelio, who received the 2005 Teaching Excellence Award from the Central Student Association, began her career teaching grades 4 to 12 before completing a PhD at the University of Connecticut and moving to a university setting. She arrived at Guelph in 2002. Here, she thrives on constantly challenging students to see what they're capable of.

"I often try to get students to do things that are a little bit beyond their comfort zone, but I also give them permission to fail," she says. "I'd rather they get it wrong than not make an attempt."

Communication Vital

Continued from page 1

monikers — *Science, Nature, Cell* — favoured by many prestigious real-life publishers.)

He believes the exercise helps students learn better. Although he has yet to draw any concrete conclusions, he says students who spend more time writing the paper — and doing the requisite reading — generally earn higher marks than those preoccupied with conducting the experiment, creating figures and tables and even revising their work.

"Being able to communicate your ideas effectively is a real skill and talent that demonstrates a deeper understanding of science. Those who write well have mastered the concepts and have also begun to make connections between different ideas."

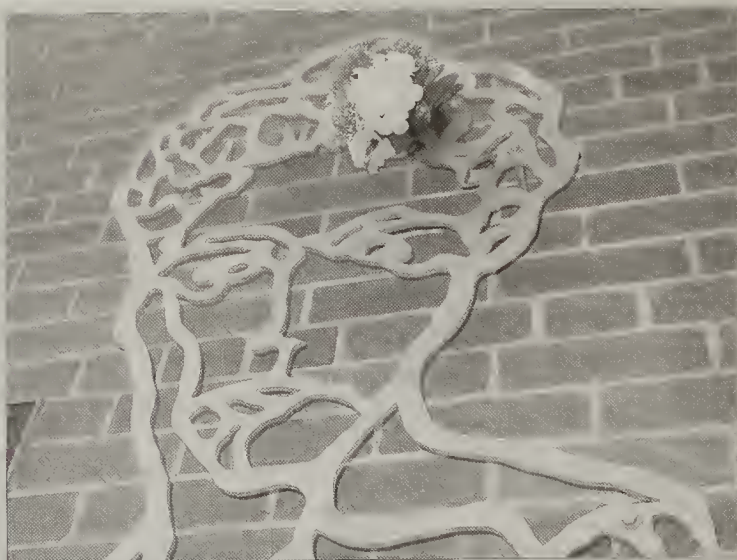
Dawson uses the assignment to discuss the importance of collaborative research and the scientific publishing process, especially the fundamentals of the ever-expanding

field of electronic publishing. In effect, he says, he teaches not just protein folding but also how science is done.

"My students have a love/hate relationship with the project. They hate the amount of time and effort required, but when it's done, they love the sense of accomplishment and what they have learned about science. This is one thing where they learn not just content but also what it means to be a scientist."

He borrowed the idea from a visiting professor and adapted it to fit an existing course assignment. A web-based tool he designed last year with Teaching Support Services now makes the entire process of manuscript submission, review and publication more efficient.

Among other ideas, he plans to use podcasting to enable students equipped with iPods or MP3 players to hear and review lectures on the course website.



Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken on campus, you will have your name entered in a draw to be held at the end of the semester for a \$50 gift certificate donated by the U of G Bookstore. Anyone who submits the right answer by Oct. 13 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca or call Ext. 56039. The following people correctly reported that the Sept. 27 photo was taken in the upper-level seating in Centre Six: Carrie Tanti, Liana Rowlands, Sandra Campbell, Debbie Billington, Rose Diamante, Ornella McCarron, John Van Manen, Fran Kitchen, Jessica Rollings-Scattergood, Kim Rawson, Heather Ives, Shelley Vance, Kian Merrikh, Steve Gazzola, Brad Koegler, Maurice Nelischer, Allan Willms, Tim Mau, Steve Borho, Michael Morrison and Pluccia Hohenadel.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL

Research Co-ordinator

The Poultry Industry Council (PIC), a not-for-profit organization, is located in Arkell, Ont., just outside Guelph. Its primary activities include encouraging and financing research and education for the benefit of the Canadian poultry industry. This is made possible through the efforts of a 12-person volunteer Board representing producers, the poultry industry and academia.

The PIC is looking for a self-motivated, hard-working individual to fill the Research Co-ordinator position. The successful candidate will have working knowledge of Canada's poultry industry and be able to distil technical information and relay it back to the industry. A graduate degree in agricultural or biological science would be an asset.

As Research Co-ordinator, you will oversee the files on all research projects supported by the PIC. Your duties will include assisting the PIC Research Committee with an annual grant application selection process. You will establish and maintain communication with Canada's poultry researchers and ensure that PIC projects remain on track. You will play an important part in PIC's technology transfer role by translating technical research information into laypersons' terms and distributing summaries to industry stakeholders. Commensurate oral and written communication skills are required.

The PIC will consider employment for the Research Co-ordinator on a part-time basis. Full-time employment will also be considered with added responsibilities to include, in co-operation with the office manager, special events co-ordination, fundraising, reception and other miscellaneous office duties as required.

Please send your résumé and salary expectations by October 20, 2006, to:

Marilyn White, Poultry Industry Council, 483 Arkell Rd., Guelph, ON N1H 6H8.

E-mail: pic@poultryindustrycouncil.ca

Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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Rogers PVR, two years old, standard digital terminal, records up to 50 hours of TV on internal hard drive, pause and rewind live TV; Motorola Internet modem for use with Rogers extreme high-speed Internet, Kevin, 519-400-0857.

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parking, suitable for professional or grad student couple, non-smokers, no pets, \$900 a month plus utilities, 519-836-7807 or kenmullen99@hotmail.com.

Three-bedroom house in quiet neighbourhood in south end, close to campus, shopping and bus route, suitable for visiting faculty or post-doc, non-smokers, no pets, available now, \$300 a week inclusive, Susan, 519-824-5440.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in southwest Paris, France, short-term rental; furnished two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, weekly or monthly, Nicole, 519-836-6745 or fnmoll@rogers.com.

WANTED

U of G nutrition researchers seek seven- and eight-year-old boys for study of zinc intake, involves four study visits over four months, participants given either zinc or placebo supplements, compensation provided, Melissa, 519-820-2633 or zip@uoguelph.ca.

U of G study seeks mothers, fathers and 17/18-year-old sons or daughters currently living in the same home to participate in a one- to 1½-hour interview discussing how

time spent together and apart influences their relationship, \$20 video voucher for participating, Lynda, Ext. 58051 or lashbour@uoguelph.ca.

Furnished room for one month in March or April for co-op student at Veterinary Teaching Hospital, prefer quiet dwelling, Michelle, 613-540-1673 or michelle-rose21@hotmail.com.

Tutor to teach Mandarin, Luis@lmjts.com.

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EVENTS

ARBORETUM

Theatre in the Trees presents *There's a Burglar in My Bed* by Michael Parker. Directed by John Snowdon, it opens Nov. 4 and runs to Dec. 16. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.; showtime is 8 p.m. Cost is \$59. To order tickets, call Ext. 54110.

ART CENTRE

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre holds its annual general meeting Oct. 23 at 12:30 p.m., to be followed by a dessert reception.

The art centre hosts a workshop performance of *The Death of a Chief*, an adaptation of Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar* by Yvette Nolan and Kennedy Cathy MacKinnon, Oct. 25 at 4 p.m.

CONCERTS

The School of Fine Art and Music's Thursdays at Noon concert series continues Oct. 12 with a program of jazz and Oct. 19 with Arcady featuring the vocal works of Ron Beckett on piano and violinist Marion Samuel-Stevens. On Oct. 26, Kedamaian performs Indonesian music and dance. Concerts are in MacKinnon 107. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

FILM

U of G's annual international film series, "Beyond Hollywood," continues Oct. 15 with the 1970 film *Fruit of Paradise* directed by Vera Chitylova. On Oct. 22, the featured presentation is *The Joke*, a 1968 film by Jaromil Jires. The films begin at 7 p.m. in McLaughlin 384. Discussion will follow.

LECTURES

The Biodiversity Institute of Ontario presents conservation biologist Dan Janzen of the University of Pennsylvania Oct. 16 at 5:30 p.m. in War Memorial Hall. He will discuss efforts to DNA bar code a large wild tropical biota in Costa Rica.

Economist Ravi Shankar Srivastava of Jawaharlal Nehru University in India will give the Hopper Lecture Oct. 17 at 7:30 p.m. in OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre. He will discuss "Expanding Social Security in a Neo-Liberal World: India's Tryst With Rights-Based Approaches."

Next up in OAC's public lecture series is Prof. David Sparling, executive director of the Institute of Agriculture Policy Innovation, discussing "Rethinking the Future of Agriculture" Oct. 18 at 5:30 p.m. in OVC 1714.

U of G's women's studies program is marking Persons Day Oct. 18 with a talk by Qiqi Shen of Dalian University in China. She will discuss "Rights to Education: The Perseverance of Female Students From Families of Poverty at Universities in China" at 5 p.m. at the Arboretum Centre. Tickets are \$35 general (tax receipt available), \$10 for students, and are available from Prof. Dawn Cornelio at dcorneli@uoguelph.ca.

University of Pennsylvania reproductive physiologist Ralph Brinster, the 2006 Gairdner Laureate, will give a special public lecture on "Germline Modification" Oct. 23 at 12:30 p.m. in OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre. A reception begins at 11:30 a.m.

NOTICES

Canada Savings Bonds are on sale until Oct. 31, and the University is again offering employees the opportunity to buy them through automatic payroll deduction. All employees currently on payroll are eligible to participate. For information on how to enrol or to change your current deduction, visit the website www.uoguelph.ca/hr/download/csb.htm.

The International Development Research Centre is calling for concept notes for research on the use of ecosystem approaches to human health in the control and prevention of communicable diseases, with a

focus on Chagas disease, dengue and malaria. Deadline for submissions is Oct. 31. For information, visit www.idr.ca.

SEMINARS

The Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology's graduate student seminar series continues Oct. 13 with Stewart Loker exploring "Microbial Probiotics." On Oct. 20, Namit Sharma discusses the "Role of SNARE Mediated Membrane Trafficking in Focal Adhesion Dynamics." The seminars begin at 12:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 115.

Next up in the Department of Human Health and Nutritional Sciences seminar series is Kristi Adamo of the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario Research Institute in Ottawa exploring "The Nutrition-Activity Transition and Childhood Obesity" Oct. 16. On Oct. 23, Michael Noseworthy of McMaster University discusses "Development of Novel MRI/MRS Approaches to Evaluate Healthy and Diseased Human Skeletal Muscle." The seminars are at 1:30 p.m. in Food Science 241.

"Theoretical Explanations for Cosmic Acceleration" is the focus of Eanna Flanagan of Cornell University in the Department of Physics seminar series Oct. 17 at 4 p.m. in Room 1511 of the science complex. On Oct. 19, the Guelph-Waterloo Physics Institute's Distinguished Lecturer series features Richard Ellis of the California Institute of Technology explaining "Gravitational Lensing: Einstein's Unfinished Symphony" at 4 p.m. in Physics 145 on the University of Waterloo campus. On Oct. 25, a special joint seminar with the Faculty of Environmental Sciences features David Keith of the University of Calgary discussing "Engineering the Global Carbon Cycle: Prospects and Risks" at 4:30 p.m. in MacNaughton 105.

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology launches its fall speaker series Oct. 18 with retired

OISE professor Dorothy Smith exploring "Institutional Ethnography" at 4 p.m. in MacKinnon 031.

The Department of Chemistry seminar series continues with Marc Snapper of Boston College presenting "New Reactions: Using Molecular Strain to Access Molecular Complexity" Oct. 20 at 2:30 p.m. in MacNaughton 222.

"Mycobacterium Tuberculosis: Here Today . . . and Here Tomorrow" is the topic of David Russell of Cornell University in the Department of Pathobiology seminar series Oct. 27 at 2 p.m. in Pathobiology 2106.

TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services offers a range of workshops for faculty and instructional staff. Coming up in October are "All About Wiley Interscience" Oct. 17, "Assessment Issues II: Valid and Reliable Multiple-Choice Tests" Oct. 18, "Faculty-Wide Curriculum Change at the University of Peradeniya" Oct. 18 and "Photoshop Tidbits: Masks" Oct. 24. A new-faculty social is slated for Oct. 25. Details and registration for all workshops can be found on the TSS website at www.tss.uoguelph.ca. If you have questions, call Mary Nairn at Ext. 53571.

THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Karine Villeneuve, a PhD candidate in the Department of Chemistry, is Oct. 20 at 10 a.m. in MacNaughton 222. The thesis is "Exploration of Ruthenium (II) Catalyzed Processes: From [2+2] Cycloadditions to the Discovery of New Reactions." The adviser is Prof. William Tam.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Pamela Wesley, Integrative Biology, is Oct. 23 at 9 a.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "Local and Regional Scale Habitat Selection by Wood Turtles (*Glyptemys insculpta*) in Ontario." The adviser is Prof. Ron Brooks.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Kitchener-Waterloo Sexual Assault Centre is hosting its fourth annual FemFest fundraiser Oct. 19 at 6:30 p.m. at the Walper Terrace Hotel in Kitchener. For tickets or information, call 519-571-0121 or visit www.kwsasc.org.

The YMCA-YWCA of Guelph's 2006 Women of Distinction speaker series presents a panel discussion featuring five women from the local business sector Oct. 18 at 7 p.m. For information or to register, call Robert Gruber at 519-824-5150.

The third annual Stroke Forum joins with the Stroke Recovery Network to present a talk by Dr. Sandra Black, a neurologist at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto, Oct. 30 at 7 p.m. at the Cutten Club. She will discuss "Challenges and Opportunities for Stroke Recovery." Admission is free.

The Guelph Youth Music Centre is hosting a fundraising concert and gala Oct. 14 featuring duo pianists James Anagnoson and Leslie Kinton. A reception begins at 7 p.m. For tickets, call 519-837-1119.

The Guelph Symphony Orchestra presents "Mozart's Magic Flute" Oct. 28 at 7:30 p.m. at the River Run Centre. Call 519-763-3000 for tickets.

The Canadian Federation of University Women is hosting a mayoralty candidate meeting Oct. 17 at 2 p.m. at Harcourt United Church.

The Guelph Studio Tour runs Oct. 13 to 15, featuring the work of 35 local artists and artisans. Hours are 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. For more information, visit www.guelphstudiotour.ca.

The Elora Festival Singers and baritone John Fanning perform folk songs and ballads Oct. 22 at 3 p.m. at St. John's Church in Elora. For ticket information, call 519-846-0331.

U of G Celebrates Aboriginal Awareness Week

Campus will play host to powwow dance exhibition, seminars, open house to celebrate aboriginal culture

THE UNIVERSITY will mark Aboriginal Awareness Week Oct. 16 to 20 with a range of educational and cultural events.

The week is being spearheaded by the Aboriginal Resource Centre and supported by a number of campus departments and organizations, including Human Resources, the Office of Research, the Human Rights and Equity Office and the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences.

"Aboriginal Awareness Week is an important time to continue to improve the environment of accessi-

bility for our aboriginal students," says organizer Jaime Mishibinijima, U of G's aboriginal student adviser. "Guelph's campus is becoming more diverse, and we must respond with appropriate training and awareness building."

On Oct. 16 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., the University community is invited to watch a powwow dance exhibition in the University Centre courtyard, then sample some traditional aboriginal foods from across Canada for \$8 a plate.

On Oct. 18, a 10 a.m. seminar on

"Aboriginal Identity and Student Transition" is designed to help program advisers, student services staff and faculty work towards positive aboriginal student identity development.

At 2:30 p.m., University of Toronto professor Deborah McGregor and Leslie McGregor, executive co-ordinator of the Noojinawin Health Authority, will discuss "The Ethics of Researching Traditional Aboriginal Knowledge."

On Oct. 19, "Aboriginal 101: All the Things You Wanted to Know but

Didn't Want to Ask" is the theme of a 10 a.m. seminar led by two staff from Wilfrid Laurier University. It's geared to student services staff and anyone with an interest in aboriginal people and issues. At 2 p.m., Schuyler Webster of Laurentian University and education specialist Ruth Reyno explore "Cross-Cultural Dynamics in Community Aboriginal-Based Research."

The week wraps up Oct. 20 with an open house from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the South Residences Student Lounge, which has been trans-

formed into an aboriginal space. Student Housing Services and the Aboriginal Resource Centre received a Gordon Nixon Leadership Award in 2006 to convert the lounge into a space that celebrates aboriginal culture.

All seminars and workshops are free and will be held in Room 103 of the University Centre. Registration is required. Register online at www.uoguelph.ca/hr/training/coursereg.htm or www.studentaffairs.uoguelph.ca/regor call Karen Kovats at Ext. 56495.

INSIDE: BEHIND THE MASK • CHEATING A BIG PROBLEM, STUDY FINDS • RHYME AND REASON

U of G Marks Peace Week

Former Iraq hostage, Holocaust survivor, anti-war activist to speak

A CANADIAN who was held hostage in Iraq for four months and a Holocaust survivor will share their stories during the University's Peace Week activities Nov. 6 to 10.

Peace by Piece Week is an initiative of staff and students, with representation from a number of on-campus organizations, whose goal is to create community dialogue and understanding of issues of peace-making.

James Loney, a 42-year-old community worker from Toronto who

was held hostage in Iraq last year, will speak Nov. 10 at noon in Peter Clark Hall. He was in Iraq representing the humanitarian group Christian Peacemaker Teams when he was abducted at gunpoint Nov. 26, 2005, along with three of his colleagues.

The kidnappers threatened to kill the four hostages unless the United States released all Iraqi detainees by Dec. 8. The hostages later appeared in a video dated Jan. 21 that was released by the kidnappers Jan. 28 to again demand the release of Iraqi prisoners. In March 2006, the tor-

tured body of one of Loney's colleagues was found in Baghdad. Later that month, Loney and his other two colleagues were rescued by a special team of coalition troops that included Canadian forces. He returned home to Toronto March 26.

On Nov. 6, a multi-faith peace celebration focusing on teachings from many of the world's religions begins at 6 p.m. in Room 553 of the University Centre.

On Nov. 7, a meditation for peace will take place at 1 p.m. in

See HOLOCAUST on page 14

OAC Prof Heads Water Panel

Experts will advise province on protecting water, meeting needs of rural communities

BY ANDREW VOWLES

PROF. AL LAUZON of the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development will head a panel of experts to advise the provincial government on protecting sources of drinking water and meeting the needs of rural communities.

The appointment complements Ontario's Clean Water Act, which was approved Oct. 18 and requires communities to identify and eliminate any significant risks to their water supplies.

The 11-member panel, including agricultural, municipal and conservation authority representatives, will advise Queen's Park on how to use a new provincial funding program, worth \$7 million in its first year. The program is intended to help farmers and rural businesses reduce threats

to local drinking-water sources, said Environment Minister Laurel Broten in a news release announcing the program and Lauzon's appointment.

Under an amendment this fall to the Clean Water Act, the provincial government will provide \$5 million in 2007/08 to protect municipal water wells and surface-water intakes, and another \$2 million over the same period for education on source protection planning.

Lauson is past chair of the Ontario Rural Council (TORC), representing almost 40 rural organizations across Ontario. This summer, TORC held an environmental forum on source-water protection and the Clean Water Act, which drew participants from across the province.

A longtime facilitator and instructor at U of G, the Ingersoll resi-

dent studies and teaches capacity development and extension.

"My hope would be that the panel can be creative and identify recommendations that meet the needs and aspirations of all stakeholders," he says.

Referring to recommendations on rural issues and drinking-water safety from this summer's forum presented to a legislative standing committee this fall, TORC executive director Harold Fleming says: "Al played a very key role in providing leadership to the Ontario Rural Council during the past year. The provincial ministry is recognizing that TORC is a key voice for rural Ontario. It's appropriate that Al should chair this advisory committee to ensure that the broad range of rural and source-water protection concerns are heard."

C. Difficile Found in Meat

OVC prof cautions against drawing premature conclusions

BY LORI BONA HUNT

TWO RESEARCHERS in the Department of Clinical Studies who earlier this month found a dangerous bacterium in food animals now have evidence that *Clostridium difficile* is in ground and processed meats sold in Canada.

D.V.Sc. student Alex Rodriguez-Palacios presented preliminary findings from the meat study last week at the World Buiatrics Congress in France, but co-author Prof. Scott Weese is cautioning people against

drawing premature conclusions.

"It's too soon to conclude that the presence of the bacterium in meat automatically means people can become infected and develop *C. difficile*-associated disease through eating meat," he says. "Finding this bacterium in meat is an important step in trying to determine whether *C. difficile* is a food-borne pathogen, but much more work is required to see whether there is any real risk."

About 18 per cent of meat tested in Ontario contained the bacterium. A separate independent study by re-

searchers at the University of Arizona found *C. difficile* in about 30 per cent of meat they tested. Similar research is being done by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Food Safety and Inspection Services and the National Institutes of Health.

Although the U.S. researchers found the human epidemic strain, it was not found in Ontario samples, says Weese. But the majority of strains found in Ontario meat samples can cause disease in people.

See BACTERIUM on page 14



Walk on the 'Wylde' Side

She may be made of clay, but zoologist Liv Wylde has travelled the world and even been introduced to David Suzuki, thanks to her creator, Jessica Morrison, a U of G student who has written a series of books designed to show children the wonders of nature. See story on page 13.

PHOTO BY JESSICA MORRISON

University to 'Star' in New TV Series

Show's producers looking for students to work as extras

BY LORI BONA HUNT

THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH will be "starring" in a new television series that will bring film crews to campus several days a month until next spring.

"When the production company approached us about filming on campus, we thought it was a project the entire campus community could get excited about," says Brenda Whiteside, associate vice-president (student affairs). "Students will witness first-hand what goes into making a TV program and will have the chance to make some money working as extras."

U of G's walkways and buildings will appear on the small screen as a fictitious university. The first two days of shooting are scheduled for Oct. 30 and 31. Most of the scenes will be shot outside the front en-

trance of Macdonald Hall, in front of Johnston Hall and along Winegard Walk.

Seventy-five to 100 people between the ages of 18 and 25 are needed as extras both days, and preference will be given to U of G students, says Nancy Botting Harrison, who's in charge of casting extras. The pay is \$9.25 an hour.

People can take part on one day or both days, but they must commit to being there for the entire shoot, which could last 10 to 12 hours the first day and up to eight hours the second day, says Botting Harrison.

"There will be plenty of time for students to study or read in between takes, but they must be willing to stay on the set for the duration. This is a great opportunity for students, especially drama students, to see what happens on a film set."

See NEW TV SHOW on page 2



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Presidential Review Committee Seeks Input From Community

THE PRESIDENTIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE has begun soliciting input from the University community to inform its work.

Chaired by Board of Governors chair Douglas Derry, the committee consists of B of G vice-chairs Rita Burak and Robin-Lee Norris; Prof. Jim Atkinson, Animal and Poultry Science; Prof. Barbara Morrongiello, Psychology; Prof. Janet Wood, Molecular and Cellular Biology; staff member Tom Kendall, director of athletics; OAC graduate student Barbara Caswell; and College of Social and Applied Human Sciences undergraduate student John Coombs.

President Alastair Summerlee has indicated that he is willing to stand for a second term. His first term ends

June 30, 2008.

Faculty, staff and students wishing to make written submissions pertaining to the president's reappointment are encouraged to do so. These can be submitted to the committee either by e-mail to presreview@uoguelph.ca or by campus or regular mail, addressed to: Douglas Derry, Chair of the Board of Governors, c/o the University Secretariat, Level 4, University Centre.

Phone inquiries related to the review process should be directed to University secretary Vicki Hodgkinson at Ext. 56761.

Submissions will be retained in strict confidence for the use of the review committee and should be made by Nov. 15.

U of G Authors in Spotlight

Library celebrates achievements of writers, editors, translators

BY RACHELLE COOPER

U OF G WILL PAY TRIBUTE to 2005 faculty, staff and student authors with an inaugural Campus Authors event Nov. 1 at 4:30 p.m. in the Florence Partridge Room on the third floor of the McLaughlin Library. The event is free and open to the public.

Campus Authors was created to recognize current and retired members of the U of G community who write, edit and translate books. McLaughlin Library received 18 submissions of books published by faculty, staff and students in 2005 and is now collecting books published in 2006, expanding the invitation to alumni.

"The beauty of this program is

that these authors will be properly acknowledged by the campus community," says Michael Ridley, chief information officer. "A tremendous amount of the publishing happens within a fairly defined community, so these authors are known within their own discipline, but many of their colleagues probably don't realize that they've published a book."

McLaughlin Library has created a database of all new U of G books and their authors, starting with books published in 2005. Honoured books will contain a bookplate indicating University authorship, and the library catalogue will be linked to the new database.

This program is also a way of making sure McLaughlin has copies of all new U of G-authored books,

says Lynn Campbell, the library's manager of development and public relations. "In the past, it was difficult for the library to acquire all these books if we didn't know they were being published. Now we can guarantee that new campus-authored books will be in our collection."

The 2005 books cover an "astounding" array of topics, says Campbell. They range from Arboretum staff member Chris Earley's *Waterfowl of Eastern North America* to integrative biology professor Ryan Gregory's *Evolution of the Genome*. A list of all the books and short author biographies are posted on the Campus Authors website at www.lib.uoguelph.ca/author/2006.

Signed copies of the 2005 books will be for sale at the Nov. 1 event.

New TV Show to Hire Guelph Students as Extras

Continued from page 1

Anyone interested in working as an extra should send an e-mail to guelphcasting@botmail.com. Spots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

For the most part, filming will not affect pedestrian traffic along Winegard Walk, says Whiteside. People may be rerouted around the set in front of Johnston Hall, and students living in Macdonald Hall will be asked to use the rear entrance.

"We want to assure the community that we will keep disruptions to a minimum," she says.

She notes that all revenues the University receives from location fees will be used to benefit students and the campus, ranging from supporting residential programs to dealing with deferred maintenance and making improvements to parking lots. The crew will also be using the University's catering services for meals.

Starting the afternoon of Oct. 29, the production company will set up a "base camp" of about 10 tractor-trailers in P42, the parking lot east of the Eccles Centre and South Residences. It will remain until Oct. 31.

In addition, about eight large trucks that supply hydro and other essential services to the film crew will be parked along Macdonald Lane Oct. 30 and 31. Vehicle traffic will be restricted to one lane during this period.

The next issue of *At Guelph* is Nov. 8.
Copy deadline is Oct. 31.

AT GUELPH

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U OF G MEAL PLAN DONATIONS ARE TOPS IN CANADA AGAIN

U of G students have donated \$22,000 from their meal plans this semester to buy food for 17 local charities through the national student-run charity Meal Exchange. Once again, Guelph has raised the highest amount of any Canadian university or college. On Oct. 31, the annual "Trick or Eat" program will see U of G students going door to door collecting food for the Guelph Food Bank. All food donations will be delivered Nov. 25.

TURN TO RADIO, WEB WHEN WINTER WEATHER HITS

When a winter storm arrives and you want to know if the University is open, the best information sources are the radio and U of G's home page. Radio stations in Guelph, Kitchener-Waterloo and Toronto are immediately notified if the president decides to shut the University because of bad weather or an emergency. Area TV stations are also notified, and U of G's home page will contain up-to-date information. The University's policy on inclement weather/emergency procedures can be found on the web at www.uoguelph.ca/hr/hrmanual/512.htm.

RENOVED VIOLOGIST TO DISCUSS AVIAN INFLUENZA

The College of Biological Science hosts the 2006 Roy C. Anderson Memorial Lecture in Parasitology Oct. 30 at 12:10 p.m. in Room 1714 of OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre. World-renowned virologist Albert Osterhaus of Erasmus University Medical Centre in the Netherlands, whose group was the first to identify the avian influenza strain H5N1 in humans, will discuss "H5N1 Avian Influenza Virus: A Real Threat to Animal and Human Health." A reception begins at 11:45 a.m.

FALL PREVIEW DAY SET

Fall Preview Day, U of G's annual open house for prospective students and their parents, runs Nov. 5 from 10 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. This year's event is expected to draw more than 1,500 participants. The opening session begins at 10 a.m. in the Athletics Centre. The afternoon will feature academic and student service resource displays and information sessions on housing, co-op education, admissions and finance.

PHASE 2A TOURS OCT. 26

The U of G community is invited to tour Phase 2A of the science complex Oct. 26 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tours will depart from the foyer of the main entrance of the complex on the north side of the building. It can be reached from Alumni Walk between the MacLachlan and Reynolds buildings. Refreshments will be served.

COME TO THE FAIR

Fair November, U of G's annual exhibition and sale of fine Canadian crafts, runs Nov. 16 to 19 in the University Centre. Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free.

Behind the Mask

Book series pays tribute to work of playwright Judith Thompson

BY RACHELLE COOPER

The plays of Prof. Judith Thompson, English and Theatre Studies, have been produced and studied around the world for more than 20 years, but it's been difficult for academics and fans to obtain copies of the essays, articles and interviews written about her work because they weren't widely accessible—until now.

The *Masks of Judith Thompson*, edited by Thompson's colleague Prof. Ric Knowles and released in May, is the third and final book in a series published by Playwrights Canada Press to help scholars and actors study her work more fully. It includes articles and interviews that provide insights into her plays, as well as her personal and professional life as a playwright and professor.

Knowles also edited the first book in the series, *Judith Thompson: Critical Perspectives on Canadian Theatre in English*, which contains scholarly essays on Thompson's work. The second book, for which Knowles wrote the introduction, is an anthology called *Judith Thompson: Late 20th-Century Plays 1980 to 2000*. It includes *The Crackwalker*, *White Biting Dog*, *Pink, I Am Yours*, *Lion in the Streets*, *Sled* and *Perfect Pie*.

"It's a tribute to Judith," says Knowles of the series. "As one of the major playwrights in the English-speaking world, she deserves this kind of treatment."

There's no question that Thompson, a U of G faculty member since 1992, has earned her reputation as one of the country's top playwrights. She's a two-time winner of the Governor General's Literary Award for Drama and the Floyd S. Chalmers Canadian Play Award, and was nominated twice for a Genie Award. In 2005, she was named an officer of the Order of Canada.

Thompson says the title of the latest book in the series is significant because it was in a mask technique acting class at the National Theatre School that she started writing monologues for neutral masks. Now, as a teacher, she frequently uses mask techniques in her classes.

"A mask enables the irrational,

the unconscious, to move forward and into the outside world so one can get in touch with a much more free-associated creative side—a collective unconscious. That's why the masks released a flood of emotion that was expressed through language in me and through character, not as myself."

Thompson says she still takes on the mask of each character as she's writing a play.

"I don't actually put on a mask anymore. It's much more automatic now. Once I start writing, it just happens. Through the dialogue is how I find the characters, and the dialogue comes to me from strong, juicy, provocative, exciting language."

The interviews in *The Masks of Judith Thompson* were done between 1988 and 2006.

"A mask enables the irrational, the unconscious, to move forward and into the outside world so one can get in touch with a much more free-associated creative side—a collective unconscious."

"It's a fun blast from the past," says Thompson, "and it's interesting to see how my ideas and perceptions completely change. I think the opposite of what I thought 10 years ago. I think I said: 'I'm not a feminist writer' at some point, and I most profoundly am. I just think when you're young, you don't want to be ghettoized."

There are several references in the book to the role her epilepsy played in shaping her work as an artist.

"My seizures were terrifying, but I had so few that I think it's helped me as a writer. To be an artist, you have to have some of the advantages of being an insider and you also need the disadvantages of being an outsider. I've been marginalized by that, and I'm grateful to have suffered through it because, if you get through it, it can be a gift if you've also had the advantages I've had."

Although several international theses have already been done on

Thompson's work, she says the books will make it much easier for scholars to assess what's been written about her work. "I'm certainly the worst collector of my own archives," she says.

A lot of what she has saved has been deposited in the McLaughlin Library's Judith Thompson Collection. The playwright donated 16 boxes of her manuscripts, house programs, posters, notebooks, review clippings, correspondence and photos to the collection.

Thompson continues to be a prolific playwright and is now working on an Abbey Theatre and CanStage commission and a film adaptation of *The Crackwalker*. For her latest work, *The Palace of the End*, she says she "channelled" three real people to create a trilogy about the global effects of the Iraq war. The play debuted at the Edinburgh Festival and was recently produced in Italy. It will be read in its entirety at the Art for Real Change Festival Oct. 26 at 8 p.m. at the Theatre Centre, 1087 Queen St. W. in Toronto.

The play consists of three fictional monologues. The first is by Lynndie England, the young U.S. soldier who was convicted of torturing detainees and was pictured in newspapers holding the end of a leash that was pulling a naked Iraqi man by the neck.

The second monologue is by British microbiologist David Kelly, who told the BBC that the dossier justifying the invasion of Iraq was grossly exaggerated. This caused a major political scandal, and Kelly was found dead days after appearing before a parliamentary committee investigating it.

The third monologue tells the story of Najis al Saffarh, a leading Communist in the 1960s and mother of four, who was brutally tortured by the Baathists and finally killed by American bombs.

"I don't think any socially responsible person could turn away from what's going on in the Middle East," says Thompson. "The play is very shocking, although compared to what people really do, it's actually very mild."

people

TWO ENGLISH FACULTY NOMINATED FOR GOVERNOR GENERAL'S AWARDS

Two members of the School of English and Theatre Studies have been nominated for 2006 Governor General's Awards. Prof. Dionne Brand was nominated in the poetry category for her book *Inventory*, and Prof. Andre Alexis, acting associate director of the MFA in creative writing program, was nominated in the category of children's literature for *Ingrid and the Wolf*. Winners will be announced Nov. 21. Brand was also honoured this month as the winner of the Harbourfront Festival Prize at the International Festival of Authors. The \$10,000 award honours individuals who have made a contribution to the world of books and writing.

MONNET CHAIR HOLDER TO ATTEND MEETING IN BELGIUM

Prof. John Pratschke, Marketing and Consumer Studies, holder of the Jean Monnet Chair in European Integration Studies, will attend the biennial meeting of the European Community Studies Association—World next month in Belgium. The meeting, which is part of the Jean Monnet Action Program of the European Commission, is exclusive to holders of Monnet chairs throughout the world. There are four Monnet chairs in Canada.

HISTORIAN IS VISITING FELLOW IN ENGLAND

Prof. Karen Racine, History, is a visiting research fellow this fall at the Institute for the Study of the Americas at the University of London.

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE PROFS GIVE TALKS IN ITALY

Two faculty members in the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development recently gave talks in Italy at the International Union of Forestry Research Organization's conference on landscape ecology. Prof. Robert Brown gave the keynote talk, discussing his work on microclimate, particularly the use of urban forestry to cool communities. Prof. Robert Corry presented a paper on "The Relationship of Patch Shapes and Sizes in Highly Fragmented Landscapes."

IN MEMORIAM

Retired professor Ed Gamble, who served as chair of the Department of Crop Science for 10 years, died Oct. 5 at age 75. A world-renowned plant breeder, he held a BSA and MSA from the Ontario Agricultural College and a PhD from Iowa State University and joined the faculty of OAC in 1956. Prof. Gamble took his expertise around the world and, after retiring in 1994, received China's Friendship Award, the country's highest award for a foreign researcher, for his efforts to increase China's wheat yield. He is survived by his wife, Mary; five children: Brenda, William, Dean, Christopher and Cynthia; six grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. A tree will be planted in his memory at the Wall-Custance Memorial Forest.

Music, Maestro, Please

MAKE WAY for the maestro. World-famous British conductor Martin Neary is coming to campus Oct. 28 for a rehearsal prior to the biennial University Voices concert slated for Nov. 3 in Toronto, which will include the U of G Chamber Singers.

Neary gained international acclaim for his direction of the music at the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, in 1997, a ceremony seen by two billion people worldwide. He is the former organist of Winchester Cathedral and former music director of Westminster Abbey.

"Martin Neary is a renowned international leader in the field of cho-

ral music, and his presence in our community is a fabulous opportunity for our students to work with someone of great experience and stature," says Prof. Marta McCarthy, Fine Art and Music. "He's also known for his ability to relate to and inspire young people, so this is an excellent match for us. The University's choirs have performed at numerous national events and international festivals, and the opportunity to rehearse and perform with Dr. Neary offers us another exciting challenge and a chance to demonstrate what we've achieved."

Before leading the choirs at University Voices alongside U.K. com-

poser/conductor James McMillan, Neary will offer his expertise in five days of workshops and rehearsals across Canada. His U of G rehearsal runs from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Room 107 of the MacKinnon Building and is open to the public.

The U of G Chamber Singers will be making their third appearance at University Voices along with choirs from six other universities—Manitoba, Toronto, Ottawa, Wilfrid Laurier, McGill and Memorial.

The concert begins at 8 p.m. at Toronto's Metropolitan United Church, 56 Queen St. E. For tickets, call 416-366-7723 or visit the website www.stlc.com.

TIGRESS Has TRIUMFant Startup

Scientists perform first-ever experiment with 'Hubble telescope of nuclear physics'

BY ANDREW VOWLES

WHAT MAKES UP the stuff of the universe, from the innards of distant stars to the elements inside you? The answers are a step nearer after this summer's successful startup of a multi-million-dollar instrument in Vancouver considered the "Hubble telescope of nuclear physics."

The most advanced detector of its kind, the TIGRESS (TRIUMF-ISAC gamma ray escape suppressed spectrometer) is housed at TRIUMF, Canada's national laboratory for nuclear and particle physics research in British Columbia.

Developed by an international group of scientists under the direction of U of G physics professor Carl Svensson, the instrument will help scientists learn how stars cook up the basic elements that make up all matter in the universe.

"All the elements you and I and everything else are made up of at some point were cooked up in the interior of some ancient star," says Svensson. "To understand the origins of the heavier elements, you have to understand nuclear reactions in these stars."

Catastrophic events such as X-ray bursts and stellar explosions then spewed out those elements, which eventually cooled and coalesced into planets, moons and other objects. (In our own relatively young sun, the same reactions generate helium from hydrogen, releasing light and heat.)

This summer saw the first-ever experiment performed with TIGRESS at TRIUMF's Isotope Separator and Accelerator Complex

(ISAC). "The experiment went so smoothly that it was beyond any of our expectations," says Svensson.

Now midway through a grant to design and build TIGRESS, the U of G-led consortium of about 70 scientists at 17 institutions across Canada, the United States and Europe will take three more years to complete the project. Major components for this first TIGRESS experiment were also designed and built at the University of Montreal, the University of Rochester and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California.

"Combined with the most advanced source of exotic nuclei at

ISAC, this will provide the world's best environment for advancing our understanding of the creation of matter in the universe," says TRIUMF science director Jean-Michel Poutissou.

Last spring, TRIUMF commissioned a new superconducting linear accelerator called ISAC-II, which accelerates exotic atoms for studying nuclear structure and nuclear astrophysics. TIGRESS will be the main experimental facility at ISAC-II.

Using extremely short-lived isotopes created in the ISAC accelerator, the TIGRESS device will allow researchers to study the kinds of processes believed to occur in stars to

produce elements, particularly heavier ones.

Observing how these processes occur — including this summer's first-ever experiment on TIGRESS using a proton-rich form of sodium — will help scientists test theories about events in these stellar crucibles.

The TIGRESS collaboration also studies basic properties of the nuclear forces and interactions between matter and anti-matter.

"What's really driving us is the desire to understand how the universe began and how it currently works," says Svensson.

He also expects TIGRESS will

yield information that will help suppliers improve products from medical diagnostic devices to radiological security monitoring instruments that use similar technology.

Construction of the TIGRESS array has been funded by a six-year capital grant worth \$8.06 million from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC). NSERC has also provided operating grants worth a total of \$1.89 million. The device incorporates technology developed through an award of \$800,000 funded jointly in 2002 by the Canada Foundation for Innovation, the Ontario Innovation Trust, U of G and TRIUMF.

SHARCNET Gets New Provincial Support

Funding to strengthen computing, research ties

BY LORI BONA HUNT

ONE OF THE MOST powerful supercomputing installations in the world, which links U of G with 15 other Ontario research institutions, has received an additional \$10.9 million in support from the provincial government.

The Shared Hierarchical Academic Research Computing Network (SHARCNET) supports some of Canada's pre-eminent academics in a variety of fields, from strategies to combat mad cow disease to new models to manage financial risk.

It consists of clusters of computers linked by a dedicated fibre-optic connection. The facilities are hun-

dreds or thousands of times faster than a regular desktop computer. Calculations that would take months to run on a single personal computer can be completed in a few hours.

"This network has given us a capacity for computing that we haven't had before in the history of U of G," says Prof. Deb Stacey, chair of the Department of Computing and Information Science (CIS) and a representative on the SHARCNET board.

The latest grant comes from the Ontario Research Fund and brings the total amount of money the province has contributed to about \$45 million.

"This is an amazing contribution

to the high-performance computing community on this campus and for all the SHARCNET institutions," says Stacey, who notes that Guelph's high-performance computing community is constantly growing in numbers and research areas.

"The province has wisely realized that infrastructure can be wasted if the 'people' resources are not funded. This funding will allow SHARCNET to effectively and efficiently maintain and expand its personnel and its outreach to the researcher community. It will also enable research in many disciplines and will support faculty, staff and students."

Guelph is unique among the other SHARCNET institutions because it uses the high-performance computing system for research with a primarily biological focus, led by faculty in CIS, the Department of Physics, the Department of Chemistry and the School of Engineering.

The other research institutions that make up the high-performance computer network are McMaster, Wilfrid Laurier, Windsor, Waterloo, Brock, York, Laurentian, Trent and Lakehead universities; the Ontario Institute of Technology; Fanshawe and Sheridan colleges; Perimeter Institute; and the Ontario College of Art and Design.

Book Explores Emily Carr's First Nations Imagery

Fine art prof documents social and political meanings, struggles of legendary artist's commitment to her work and to First Nations people

BY REBECCA KENDALL

NEARLY 100 YEARS after Canadian artist Emily Carr began visually articulating her responses to the cultural expression produced by British Columbia's First Nations, Prof. Gerta Moray, Fine Art and Music, has published *Unsettling Encounters: First Nations Imagery in the Art of Emily Carr*. It's the first book that closely examines the social and political meanings and struggles of Carr's commitment to her art and to First Nations people.

Moray, who joined U of G in 1989, also raised the \$80,000 needed by the University of British Columbia Press to fund the book, which is packed with maps; photographs of Carr, her family and the communities she visited; and nearly 100 colour illustrations of Carr's paintings. The book was financially supported by foundations and sponsors of the arts, says Moray, who will discuss the book as part of the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre's brown bag lunch series Nov. 21 at noon.

Carr is regarded as one of Canada's pre-eminent artists and a pioneer in creating a basis for an authentically Canadian art. She's known for her late Post-Impressionist style and her vivid depictions of native American people, carvings, artifacts and settlements.

Although Carr has been the subject of two

biographies, many art history publications and countless catalogues, films, plays and books, Moray's book is the first based solely on Carr's commitment to First Nations people and the native art she depicted in her drawings, sketches and paintings. Other books have limited this subject to a chapter or two, says Moray.

"The book fills a gap in Carr's career and tells of her picturing of the northwest coast First Nations people and their cultures. It's an examination of her lifelong relationship with northwest coast First Nations culture."

"She saw her work as a civic project to set the record straight in the province and to educate everyone about the great achievements of First Nations people."

As a young woman, Carr, who lived from 1871 to 1945, was drawn to the First Nations communities that dotted the landscape of British Columbia, but settlers in the area found the presence of First Nations people "unsettling." In response, she wanted to record the achievements of native culture and heritage for the white population, says Moray.

Carr was also motivated to preserve the cultural images because it was believed at the time that First Nations people would eventually be absorbed into the broader Canadian mosaic

and not maintain their cultural identity.

Beginning in 1907, Carr visited First Nations villages and was dedicated to capturing the images of the settlements, artifacts and landscapes and putting them on paper to share with others. Her work wasn't appreciated by the settler population, and she couldn't find any government funding for her efforts, says Moray, but she persevered because her commitment was strong.

"People didn't appreciate her work much," says Moray, who notes that many of Carr's contemporaries found her use of undiluted

colours "horrifying" in contrast with the 19th-century Victorian art they were used to.

Fortunately for Carr, artists in eastern Canada were beginning to appreciate the importance of First Nations artwork in establishing a national art movement. In 1927, she was invited to show her work in a cross-Canada exhibition that also featured the Group of Seven. Her work was well-received by the exhibition's audience, and she was quickly catapulted onto the national stage.

Carr's artistic achievements and her inter-

est in First Nations subject matter have long made her a legendary figure in Canadian art, says Moray. Recently, however, her reputation has been challenged by critics who question the moral and ethical implications of her using First Nations art as a basis for her own artwork.

These critics argue that her fame was achieved through an act of cultural appropriation, says Moray, whose research on Carr began in 1986, a time when human rights issues, including native land claims, the forceful relocation of native children to residential schools and the abuses they endured, were starting to be heard in Canada's provincial and national courts.

Moray emphasizes that, although Carr could not wholly escape the racist language and social structures of her time, she was far more interested in and open to First Nations viewpoints and traditions than most of her contemporaries were.

"In her writings, Carr voiced great respect for First Nations people. When you look at how missionaries, Indian Affairs officials and the media were depicting First Nations people, you can see she was trying to create an opposite picture. She saw her work as a civic project to set the record straight in the province and to educate everyone about the great achievements of First Nations people."

board of governors

THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH'S Board of Governors consists of the chancellor, the president, seven members appointed by the board, three alumni appointed by the board, four lieutenant-governor order-in-council appointees (appointed by the provincial government), two staff members (one of whom is a graduate of the University) elected by U of G staff, three faculty members elected by Senate, and three students (two undergraduate and one graduate) elected by students. The following is an up-to-date list of the 2006/2007 board.

LINCOLN ALEXANDER
Chancellor, University of Guelph
Appointment: Chancellor



Lincoln Alexander

DOUGLAS DERRY, CHAIR
Chair, Poplar Lane Holdings Ltd.
Appointment: Board



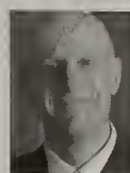
Douglas Derry



Rita Burak



Robin-Lee Norris



Alastair Summerlee

JEFF LOZON
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Appointment: Board/Alumni
U of G graduate: BA 1976

RITA BURAK, VICE-CHAIR
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Barb Caswell



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Appointment: Faculty

NANCY SCHMIDT
Co-director, Learning Commons
Appointment: Staff

ROBIN-LEE NORRIS, VICE-CHAIR
Partner, Miller Thomson LLP
Appointment: Board/Alumni
U of G graduate: BA 1980



Peter Devine



Dick Freeborough



Jonathan Guss



Gail Kilgour

ALASTAIR SUMMERLEE
President and vice-chancellor, University of Guelph
Appointment: President

PAT SHEWEN
Professor, Department of Pathobiology
Appointment: Faculty
U of G graduate: B.Sc. 1971, DVM 1975, M.Sc. 1979, PhD 1982

BRIAN BARRINGTON
President, Barrington & Associates
Appointment: Board



Jeff Lozon



Unda Mahood



Nancy Schmidt



Pat Shewen

TYE BURT
President and chief executive officer, Kinross Gold Corporation
Appointment: Board
U of G graduate: BA 1980

EVAN SIDDALL
Resident managing director, Lazard Canada
Appointment: Board
U of G graduate: BA 1987

BARB CASWELL
PhD candidate, Department of Animal and Poultry Science
Appointment: Graduate student
U of G graduate: B.Sc. 2004



Evan Siddall



Alan Sullivan



Bill Teesdale



Lyle Vanclef



Bra Walt

JOHN COOMBS
Student, BA, political science
Appointment: Undergraduate student

ALAN SULLIVAN
Professor, Department of Plant Agriculture
Appointment: Faculty
U of G graduate: BA 1976, M.Sc. 1978, PhD 1985

PETER DEVINE
President, Devine Securities Inc.
Appointment: Board

DICK FREEBOROUGH
Corporate director
Appointment: Board

JONATHAN GUSS
Chief executive officer, Ontario Medical Association
Appointment: Board

GAIL KILGOUR
Corporate director
Appointment: Lieutenant-governor order-in-council

BILL TEESDALE
Information technology support, Department of Physics
Appointment: Staff/Alumni
U of G graduate: B.Sc. 1986

LYLE VANCLIEF
Agricultural and agri-food consulting
Appointment: Board/Alumni
U of G graduate: B.Sc. (Agr.) 1966

BRE WALT
Student, BA, English
Appointment: Undergraduate student

United Way Campaign Passes Halfway Mark

BY MARY DICKIESON

THREE WEEKS after the kickoff, the University's United Way campaign has raised \$188,000 or 52 per cent of its 2006 goal.

"This is a really exciting beginning," says campaign-co-chair Fred Ramprashad, retired associate dean of the bachelor of science program. "But there's more. Four University departments got off to a quick start and have already reached their fundraising goal: Financial Services, Teaching and Support Services,

Computing and Communications Services and the presidential offices. Now we just have to keep the momentum going to blast past our university-wide goal of \$370,000. And we will."

Many U of G employees pledged early to be eligible for incentive prizes such as wine, books, event tickets and lots of homemade goodies.

Fifty prizes have already been drawn; the winners and prize donors are listed on the United Way website at unitedway.uoguelph.ca.

Two more draws remain, so there's still time to band in a pledge form to qualify. Those pledge forms, which can be downloaded from the website, are also key to being eligible for the grand prize of a weekend getaway donated by Goliger's Travel Plus.

The website provides regular progress reports and a list of campus events being held to support the United Way. Pick up a Halloween pumpkin from the Department of Human Health and Nutritional Sciences in Room 353 of the Animal

Science and Nutrition Building or buy a raffle ticket for baked goods in Revenue Control on Level 4 of the University Centre.

The College of Social and Applied Human Sciences and the College of Management and Economics are teaming up to host a chili luncheon in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management's Atrium Nov. 6.

The United Way campaign received \$1 for each ticket sold for the Oct. 14 Gryphon football game, and the Department of Athletics will re-

peat the donation at a basketball game in December.

United Way co-chair and OAC graduate student Barb Caswell says a number of student clubs are also hosting United Way events, and student governments are gearing up for the annual tuition lottery. Tickets will be sold for \$2 each, three for \$5, Nov. 13 to 29. The draw will take place in the University Centre Dec. 1, and the winner will receive free tuition for the winter 2007 semester. Anyone can buy a ticket and donate the prize to a registered student.

Managing the Menagerie

BY DAVID DICENZO

MARY MARTINI loves animals. It's immediately evident from a glimpse of her office at the University's Campus Animal Facilities (CAF). Pictures of horses and dogs, including her nine-year-old bull terrier, Brodie, adorn the walls. The passion she has for four- and two-legged creatures alike is a necessary trait in her position as manager of the CAF.

Martini plays an integral role in running on-campus animal facilities, although most of her day is spent at the CAF, where research is conducted on a wide variety of species.

It's not just the cute puppies that elicit her devotion. With an assortment of chickens, mice, rats and even fish — the most prevalent research subject at U of G — staying in the facility, Martini has grown to care for them all.

"You have to be an animal lover," she says. "That's important. You can't be distant or cold, but you have to be able to balance that with the research and teaching needs at the University."

The Guelph native has spent a good chunk of her life working on campus in some capacity. As a high school student, she worked as a research assistant in the then Department of Pathology, helping a researcher who studied parasites. She went on to enrol in the registered veterinary technician program at what is now Guelph's Ridgetown Campus and got her first taste of life at the CAF while completing the program.

After graduating in 1986, she was



Campus Animal Facilities manager Mary Martini shares some outdoor time with research dog Lilly. Three-year-old Lilly will soon be going home with *At Guelph* writer David DiCenzo as part of the CAF's adoption program.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

hired by the Department of Pathology and also began to provide animal care at the CAF. In those days, animal research wasn't conducted with the same sensitivity that it is today, says Martini, who had her own ideas about how the process should be handled.

"That job brought me here to the CAF providing some technical care for research animals," she says. "Through that, I met Dr. Denna Benn, the CAF director. I realized we had some similar goals about animal welfare, particularly for research animals. I recognized that there was a

bit of a gap between the needs of the animals and the needs of the researchers."

By 1996, Martini had taken over management of the facility, with one of her mandates being to bring researchers and technicians together to improve animal welfare. That goal is still the main focus of the CAF, home to 11 full-time staff, 25 part-timers, a slew of energetic volunteers and, of course, hundreds of animals involved in the University's numerous ongoing research projects. It's a highly scrutinized environment because of the public attention focused

on animal research, she says, but the facility has an open-door policy, welcoming interested observers at the annual spring open house.

Martini splits most of her time between facility and staff management, in addition to contributing to a large project that involves standardizing management procedures at all U of G animal facilities.

She's working closely with the Animal Facilities Management Group to centralize these different entities, so they can all meet regulatory compliance demands, particularly those of the Canadian Council

on Animal Care.

At the CAF, dealing with the facility's infrastructure and budgeting needs are part and parcel of the job, but she gets her biggest charge out of dealing with the enthusiastic young staff, all of whom share her love and concern for the CAF's inhabitants.

"I find myself in a supportive role sometimes," says Martini. "I'm not front line with the animals. My role is to be someone the staff can talk to. We're a small group, so we have a close family relationship."

She also aims to ensure that her staff, a well-schooled group that includes master's graduates and a fourth-year DVM student, are continually enhancing their education.

"When Denna hired me on, her goal was to ensure that we had people who were educated doing the animal-care and technical support jobs."

As a result, staff are able to work well with the researchers and actually become key parts of the projects, Martini says.

"We teach mandatory animal-care modules for all faculty, staff and students using animals in their research and teaching," she says. "But we really want to service our customers and balance that with animal care and welfare. Obviously, we have to be able to ensure that the animals here receive the ultimate in care."

There's an emotional component to the job, and Martini recognizes that. Even when a dog is adopted following its research stint, for example, it's hard on the staff.

"We're asking people to care deeply here, so it can feel like you're giving away your own pet after two years. It's emotional for me, too."

A Tale of Two Guidebooks

U of G prof examines how Washington altered book to keep public arts program afloat

BY REBECCA KENDALL

SOMETIMES IT'S NOT what's said but what's left unsaid that tells a story. That's what Prof. Christine Bold, English and Theatre Studies, discovered as she flipped through the pages of an old guidebook to Massachusetts as part of the research for her latest book, *Writers, Plumbers and Anarchists: The WPA Writers' Project in Massachusetts*.

She was reading the story of Italian immigrants Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti, who in 1920 were accused of robbing and murdering a paymaster in Massachusetts and were executed despite extreme international pressure. But Bold was struck by a discrepancy between what was written in this edition of the guidebook and what an earlier one had said.

Both had been produced through the government-funded Works Progress Administration (WPA) Writers' Project, but the earlier edition, written in 1937, described the case of Sacco and Vanzetti as a mis-

carriage of justice.

"They weren't given a fair trial, and the suspicion was that they had been executed because of their political beliefs rather than because of the charges they faced," says Bold, who has studied the WPA Writers' Project for more than 20 years and is currently working as a consultant on an American documentary titled *American Voices: From the Writers' Project*.

When the 1937 guidebook was published, it was met with controversy, she says.

"The media accused the Writers' Project of supporting Communism and anarchy through this guidebook, but the federal government insisted that it wouldn't change the book or bow to public pressure and would stand by the writers, despite threats of blackmail. What I discovered — completely by accident — was that the government did, in fact, change the book secretly with a second printing without anyone really noticing."

The version that appeared one

year later suggested that Sacco and Vanzetti were guilty of robbery and murder rather than victims of the government, says Bold. Other changes reversed the guide's sympathetic treatment of labour agitation. The story was changed without affecting page numbers from one edition to the next, and this may be why no one noticed the change, she says.

The WPA Writers' Project was established in the United States in 1935 as a federal job creation pro-

gram to provide jobs for unemployed writers, editors and researchers. Because of accusations that the project was promoting political subversion and Communism, it was later disbanded and then reinvented in some states as a financially supported state initiative.

Bold believes government administrators covertly revised the guidebook's contents in an attempt to keep the Writers' Project afloat.

"The stakes can be high when

government funds the arts. It raises the ante on what can and can't be said. These administrators secretly became complicit in censorship for the survival of the entire project. It gets quite complicated when there's public money involved. Once you're funded, how far do you feel you're able to go, and what are the consequences of trying to make social change? There are countless ways in which that effort can be influenced and reined back in."

Revised B.Comm. Major Launched

THE COLLEGE of Management and Economics (CME) officially launched a revised real estate and housing major in the B.Comm. program Sept. 27 at a celebration at the Steam Whistle Brewery in Toronto.

The guest list included alumni who have majored in housing and real estate management since the program began in 1993, current

fourth-year students and representatives of various industry associations, including Toronto Commercial Real Estate Women, which recently launched a scholarship for women and awarded \$3,000 to Guelph student Krystal Moore.

CME dean Chris McKenna gave welcoming remarks at the launch, and Mike Poitras, a partner with Adanson Associates Architects, was

keynote speaker.

The revised major incorporates more material related to commercial and investment real estate, but will continue to cover the housing sector, says Jane Londerville, lecturer and real estate and housing adviser in the Department of Marketing and Consumer Studies. The major admitted 60 students this fall, the largest cohort ever, she says.

The Odds Were in Their Favour

Venn diagrams aren't the only things that overlap in tale of three teachers

BY ANDREW VOWLES

HOW LIKELY IS THIS? It's been more than three decades since Prof. Gary Humphrey took his first-ever U of G statistics course from Prof. Henrick Malik, now emeritus professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Today, not only are they near-neighbours on the fifth floor of the MacNaughton Building, but they're also both colleagues of Prof. Ayesha Ali, whose arrival early this year came just over a decade after she took her own introductory stats course — from Humphrey.

Asking all three statistics faculty members for the odds on such a students-turned-teachers trifecta provokes laughter in the department lounge, followed by a plausible-sounding if imprecise response.

"It's like buying a lottery ticket," says Humphrey. "The more tickets you buy, the better the chances of winning."

In this case, he says, the more students you teach over your career, the more likely it is that one of those students will wind up teaching in turn in your department.

Case in point: out of the thousands of students who have taken their beginning stats courses from Humphrey, so far only Ali has become a departmental colleague here at Guelph. But besides Humphrey, other current faculty members who encountered Malik early in their undergrad years — among at least 10,000 students he's taught during his half-century in the classroom — are Profs. Gerarda Darlington and Brian Allen. (Two of his former graduate students are now faculty at other Ontario universities, including the current head of math and stats at the University of Windsor.)

Allen, currently chair of Guelph's Department of Mathematics and Statistics, traces his own U of G lineage through a separate branch of the stats academic family tree. Says



Profs. Gary Humphrey, left, Ayesha Ali and Henrick Malik are linked through shared teacher-student experiences in intro stats. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Allen: "John Holt taught me my very first stats course. John is a new professor emeritus and still very active in the department."

Of course, not every U of G statistics professor took courses from colleagues or forebears here at Guelph. But even if stats faculty don't necessarily beget more stats faculty, there may have been more than chance alone working among Malik, Humphrey and Ali well before they got to Guelph.

Malik is one of six brothers who all excelled at math in their native Pakistan (although he's the only statistician, one brother became a physicist). He came to Guelph in 1968, one year before the opening of the MacNaughton Building. ("That's before I was born," laughs Ali.)

Named emeritus professor in 1996, Malik still occupies the same office today. A winner of several

teaching honours, including a 1974 Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations award, he proudly shares a thick sheaf of teaching evaluations granting him top marks from second-year students in last winter's "Statistics for Business Decisions" course.

Humphrey took his first stats course from Malik in 1972, a year after starting at Guelph with hopes of becoming a marine biologist. Glancing at his former student, Malik says: "Gary I remember very well." In fact, it was Malik's recommendation that landed the then-new graduate a job interview with the department chair — an opportunity that turned into Humphrey's first job as a full-time tutor.

He went on to complete his M.Sc. in statistics here with J.J. Hubert, now emeritus professor, before completing a PhD at Carleton University in evolutionary biology and system-

atics. Humphrey taught at the University of Western Ontario before returning to Guelph as a faculty member in 2001.

"It was like almost no time had passed," he says.

He now applies statistics to biodiversity, pursuing an interest in ants that developed while he was an undergraduate here. In a paper published this year in *Ecology*, he discussed ants' interspecific mating and hybridization strategies.

It was while Humphrey was teaching in London that he encountered Ali, who carried an impressive statistics pedigree into his introductory stats classroom in 1993. "She has statistics in her genes," says Malik.

Ali's father, Mir, was hired in 1962 as the first statistician at Western, where he helped launch the department of statistical and actuarial sciences; he was named professor emeritus in 1994. His younger

brother will become professor emeritus in statistics at Ball State University in Indiana next year. Another of Ayesha Ali's uncles completed graduate degrees in statistics at Western and is now professor emeritus at Carleton University.

She is the only one of eight siblings to study stats, although she's hardly the lone scientist in her generation. Four siblings went through engineering, and one sister studied math and computer science. Like Ayesha Ali, a younger brother who studied applied math and computational methods at Western took his first stats course from Humphrey.

Ask Humphrey for his first recollection of Ayesha Ali and she can't resist answering for him: "Walking in five minutes late for class every day."

After graduating from Western, she completed a master's at the University of Toronto and a PhD at the University of Washington. She was a faculty member for three years at the National University of Singapore before joining Guelph last January.

Appropriately enough, Humphrey figured in her decision to return to Canada. Attending a conference in Toronto, she had spotted her former professor's name on the agenda and looked him up.

"He was one of my most memorable professors," says Ali. "There was always some entomology question on his exams."

Humphrey told her about an opening in his department at Guelph. Now teaching two third-year courses and studying causal inference and graphical models, she says: "It's like coming home."

She can't say yet whether she's encountered that neophyte in her classroom who may be destined to become a U of G stats faculty member down the road, let alone whether she'd make a case for causality in any event. But you never know for certain.

Group of Seven Has Grounds for Design

Landscape architecture students redesign President's House grounds as part of third-year course

BY ANDREW VOWLES

AMODERN-DAY "group of seven" has designs on the President's House. Seven landscape architecture students are redesigning the grounds of the 1882 stone cottage that has housed a succession of presidents at Guelph.

They took on the real-life project for their third-year design course run by Prof. Nate Perkins, School of Environmental Design and Rural Development (SED RD).

Besides helping to set off a "hidden gem" on campus and to provide a more suitable setting for University functions, the project has become an unprecedented learning experience for the students, says Perkins. "It's an opportunity to display student and faculty work."

President Alastair Summerlee and his wife, Catherine, suggested the project and plan to look for a donor who might be interested in the

design as a legacy gift. When he became president in 1993, the couple chose to remain in their own home. The President's House is now used for University functions and events.

"It's not just a residential redesign," says Prof. Maurice Nelischer, SED RD associate director. Pointing to everything from the tall conifers that partly obscure the property to the lack of a clearly defined entryway, he says: "Everything about the house says it could be a gem on campus, but the landscaping is keeping it out of people's eyes."

Perkins contrasts the property with the more formal clipped-hedges look of presidential houses he saw while studying in Illinois and Wisconsin. He says it's important that the grounds provide an appropriate backdrop and venue for U of G gatherings, including dinner meetings for 12 people or events for up to 100, often involving dignitaries of all stripes.

His students met with the Summerlees last

fall to discuss ideas and principles. By late January, the students had submitted an initial vision statement and themes for the project, including six main elements:

- defining the relationship between the house and its surroundings;
- creating an open, visually appealing garden;
- showcasing U of G talents;
- creating varied spaces for social functions;
- improving access; and
- creating flexible phasing and maintenance plans.

The students will develop a landscape design plan for possible future installation. All are in the third year of their BLA degree.

"It's an exciting project because we have real clients and a site to interact with, which creates more of a realistic experience to prepare and educate us," says student Lee Morrison. "It gives us the opportunity to contribute

to beautifying the campus. It's also a wonderful and significant project for us and our future careers. Not everyone has the chance to work with the president of the University and design a landscape."

U of G groundskeepers maintain the landscaping around the President's House. No site plan has ever been developed for the property, occupying about four acres at the north end of campus. Any landscape design for the site will be integrated with the campus master plan.

The stone cottage was originally built where Creelman Hall now stands. It was included in the plan developed in 1882 for the Ontario Agricultural College and Experimental Farm.

Nelischer emphasizes that the project is not intended as a historical restoration.

"It has to represent the future," he says, explaining that the project is meant to convey contemporary values, from environmental sensitivity to quality design.

Cheating a Big Problem, Study Finds

Prof hopes findings will prompt post-secondary institutions to develop strategies to deal with academic misconduct

BY RACHELLE COOPER

A U OF G PROFESSOR is shedding light on cheating, deception and plagiarism in Canadian high schools and universities with a study of academic misconduct in Canadian post-secondary institutions. The study by Prof. Julia Christensen Hughes and Donald McCabe of Rutgers University will be published this fall in the *Canadian Journal of Higher Education*.

"Large numbers of Canadian students report having engaged in a variety of questionable behaviours in the completion of their academic work," says Christensen Hughes, who is director of Teaching Support Services, an associate professor in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, and president of the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education.

"These results are consistent with the view of 43 per cent of faculty and teaching assistants surveyed who felt that cheating may be a serious problem in their institutions," she says.

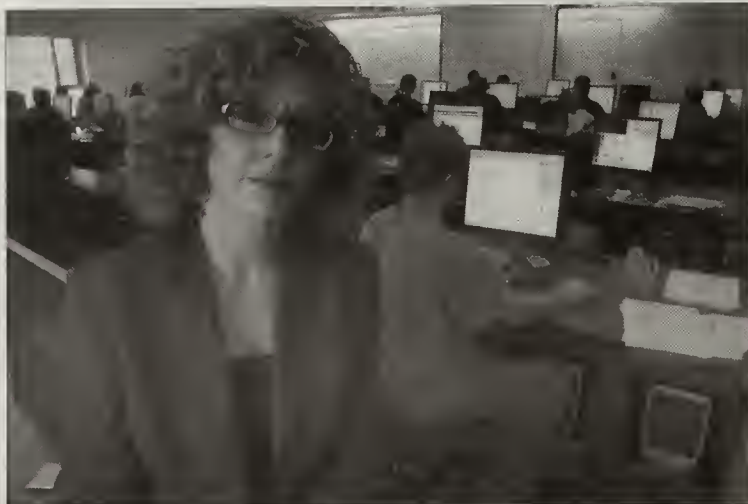
Christensen Hughes and McCabe surveyed 14,913 undergraduate students (including 1,269 first-year students who reported on their high school experiences), 1,318 graduate students, 683 TAs and 1,902 faculty from 11 Canadian post-secondary institutions across five provinces.

Cheating on written work was the most common infraction for students at all levels. Seventy-three per cent of university students reported instances of serious cheating on written work while in high school. Fifty-three per cent of undergraduate and 35 per cent of graduate students said they cheated on written work.

"Serious cheating on written work includes copying a few sentences without footnoting, fabricating or falsifying a bibliography, or turning in a paper that someone else has written," says Christensen Hughes.

The majority of students, faculty and TAs rated these behaviours as constituting moderate or serious cheating.

A surprising 58 per cent of the first-year students surveyed said they had cheated on a test or exam in



Prof. Julia Christensen Hughes says U of G has used her study to develop new policies and penalties to deter cheating.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

high school by copying from another student without that person's knowledge, helping another student cheat on a test or using "cheat sheets," she says.

Eighteen per cent of undergraduates and nine per cent of graduate students said they had cheated on a test or exam in the past year. Again, the majority of students, faculty and TAs rated these behaviours as moderate or serious cheating.

McCabe, a management and global business professor and founding president of the Center for Academic Integrity at Duke University, says the Canadian results are fairly typical of what he has observed in his surveys of students in the United States.

Christensen Hughes is hoping the study will be an incentive for institutions of higher education to develop comprehensive strategies for dealing with academic misconduct and for creating cultures of integrity.

She notes that U of G is trying to be proactive in dealing with cheating. Based on the initial study results, under the direction of Prof. Maureen Mancuso, provost and vice-president (academic), the University decided to take action and review its policies and penalties

associated with academic misconduct. New policies and penalties were formally implemented last fall.

"Now a warning is a formal offence that goes on the student's record, so the student's academic misconduct history can be easily traced," says Christensen Hughes.

(The guidelines for penalties can be found in the undergraduate calendar in Section 8 online at www.uoguelph.ca/undergrad_calendar/c08/sec_d0e6420.shtml.)

In addition, a committee to review investigation practices was established by Prof. Alan Shepard, associate vice-president (academic).

"We wanted to make it clear to students and faculty exactly what students could bring to exams," he says.

The study also identified several behaviours that most faculty and TAs viewed as moderate or serious cheating but the majority of students did not. These behaviours included working on an assignment with others when asked for individual work, receiving unauthorized help on an assignment, getting questions and answers from someone who has already written a test, and fabricating or falsifying lab data.

"Perhaps not surprisingly, these

were among the individual behaviours students reported engaging in most often," says Christensen Hughes. "For example, 76 per cent of high school students, 45 per cent of undergrads and 29 per cent of graduate students reported having worked on an assignment with others despite being directed not to do so."

Many students have a different view of what constitutes academic misconduct, particularly when it comes to working with others or in situations they perceive to be unfair, she says.

"Many students may engage in these behaviours simply because they don't believe they're wrong. These results may be indicative of a clash between a collaborative student culture and a more traditional, individualistic faculty culture, particularly when it comes to assessing student work."

These results are also consistent with the finding that 25 per cent of faculty don't change exams on a regular basis, which can create an uneven playing field because some students will have access to old exams and others won't, she adds.

"To assess student work with integrity, faculty must either change

their exams regularly or make old exams available to all students to be used as study aids."

Students surveyed also commented on their frustration with lab assignments in which they might be penalized for getting unexpected results. They said this tempted them to fabricate or falsify data.

To help faculty and TAs design effective assessments, Teaching Support Services is offering a number of workshops this semester that faculty can register for online at www.tss.uoguelph.ca/registration/index.cfm.

Christensen Hughes also suggests that many students probably engage in behaviours such as copying a few sentences of material without attribution because they're unaware of why it's important or how to do so properly.

"Educating students, particularly with respect to information literacy, is a very important part of supporting integrity in written work."

She notes that U of G's Learning Commons has developed online resources to support students in citing their work properly (www.learningcommons.uoguelph.ca/ByTopic/Writing/WritingReferencing/index.html). Even before students set foot on campus, they can prepare themselves for academia through the Learning Commons website dedicated to helping students work with integrity: www.academicintegrity.uoguelph.ca. It uses a video vignette, short quizzes, definitions and lists of Guelph's rules, regulations and penalties to explain how to properly cite sources.

"It's a one-stop source that helps put professors, teaching assistants, researchers and students on the same page to internalizing U of G's code of ethics," says Nancy Schmidt, co-director of the Learning Commons.

In addition, Barbara Christian, co-ordinator of writing services in the Learning Commons, recently spoke to a first-year class of 120 students about academic integrity and gave them a mini-test on plagiarism.

"I was impressed that the students were keen to know what the rules were and that they were asking questions to find out as much as they could," she says.

Students Get Close-up Look at UN in Action

BY ANDREW VOWLES

TWO U OF G STUDENTS who were Canadian youth delegates to a United Nations meeting on sustainable development this spring hope to return to the global forum next year. Ecology major Jennie McDowell and geography major Adam Scott spent two weeks in New York in May for the 14th UN Commission on Sustainable Development.

Besides government representatives sent by UN member nations, the annual gathering at UN headquarters brings together groups from around the world, including women, indigenous people, non-governmental organiza-

tions, and youth and children.

Along with a third student from McMaster University, the U of G students attended the youth group as representatives of the New York-based Global Youth Action Network. About 100 young people from 30 countries took part, says Scott. "It's a very interesting place to be."

Also in the Canadian delegation to the UN meeting were members of several federal government ministries.

Both fifth-year Guelph students attended plenary sessions on the themes of energy, industrial development, air pollution and air quality, and climate change. They each ad-

ressed the gathering — McDowell on transportation and Scott on sustainability.

Scott was surprised to see and hear plenty of rhetoric and diplomatic posturing during the gathering. McDowell was frustrated to learn that potential solutions — say, hydrogen fuel cell technology — already exist but are not readily shared or used, even here in Canada.

In a report on their experience, she writes about the passion and enthusiasm expressed by other youth: "Some had come from the other side of the world to voice their concerns based on very profound and emotional personal experiences brought about by poverty, climate change and/or pollution in their home coun-

tries. It put into perspective our role as a developed nation here in Canada."

Scott and McDowell hope to attend next spring's commission, when the group will develop policy and plans to be carried out by member nations based on this year's discussions.

Both U of G students belong to the Renewable Energy Group of Guelph Students for Environmental Change and have worked on the city's bike transit project. Funding for their trip came from Guelph Hydro Inc., the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences, the College of Biological Science, the Office of Student Affairs and the Central Student Association.

Rhyme and Reason

Ecologist looks at the science of life through the eyes of a poet

By ANDREW VOWLES

SCAN PROF. MADHUR ANAND'S lengthy list of recent publications and you'll see many journal names befitting the research of this prolific U of G newcomer and Canada Research Chair holder, including the *Journal of Theoretical Biology*, *Ecological Modelling*, *Conservation Biology* and *Restoration Ecology*. But what's this: the literary journal *Lichen*?

Seems there's more than one way for a scientist to record her observations and ideas. Anand's efforts to make sense of the world around her — and around all of us — extend beyond her workaday research studies in theoretical ecology to more personal reflections captured in her published poetry.

This summer, she brought those attributes and interests to Guelph's Department of Environmental Biology as the CRC in Global Ecological Change. Her research involves quantitative ecology — applying mathematical, statistical and computational models to the study of ecosystems. She's interested in the big-picture impact of changes wrought on ecosystems, from biodiversity, climate change and land use to human migration and invasive species, or in her words, "any change that requires people to look at the large-scale or long-term effects of local or recent modifications."

Anand studies patterns that unfold from interactions among living things and between those living things and their environment. That's more than just biodiversity, or the head count of species in a given area. Zoom out from there and you start to see broader patterns of interactions. Call it biocomplexity or what happens at the intersections within an ecosystem. "It's an attempt to understand how complex ecological systems work or are organized," she says.

She can't be accused of not seeing the forest for the trees — not an inappropriate metaphor, as it turns out. Although she stresses that quantitative ecology can involve any kind of ecosystem, much of her past and current work involves forests and their response to such forces as pollution, logging, introduced pests and restoration.

Until moving to Guelph this year, Anand carried out those studies in a kind of natural lab in northern Ontario. She spent six years on faculty at Laurentian University, where she studied the recovery and restoration of forests from decades of mine smelter damage. She plans to continue research in Sudbury, where she was among the 10 top-funded researchers and held a CRC in Biocomplexity of the Environment from 2001 to 2006.

Speaking of efforts since the 1970s to restore the Sudbury-area landscape — or what was grimly termed the "moonscape" when NASA conducted its moon landing trials there — she says the city and its environs offer ecologists a way to study natural and human-induced recovery and the relative



Italian Scientist

by Madhur Anand

I cannot tell you how to get there, I can only show you.

The old Triestino botany professor meets me on the Rialto footbridge. He is lending me his weekend apartment. Points of reference: the Rialto bridge, the botany professor.

How does a means of passage become a destination? At this crossroads, young and old, tourists avoid tourists. People sell their identities as flags or masks, dispense confectionery welcomes and generic farewells. My guidebook instructs me to walk down to the Rialto bridge, then return along the other side. But now a botany professor and his student have left behind their herbariums, glasshouses, flora, their dust-filled lives. Lily-livered, I want to discuss his findings about the effects of air pollution on lichens, now noticeably absent from this bridge. Or simply remind myself that lichens are far more primitive than lilies.

But instead, I'm just gathering proof that he has been breathing cigarettes and grappa all his life for this very day.

Speechless as he navigates the darkening Venetian architecture — like running through his alpine forest lit by a handful of stars, or riding his motorcycle through diamond-tipped mountains, losing my breath at 100 kilometres an hour.

Here is the apartment, but could I find it again? It's not enough just to study life, he insists, pulling out a key.

I cannot draw you a map, when every detail matters.

impact of native and non-native species on ecological community structure. "It's an interesting natural lab to study," says Anand, who was born in Thunder Bay but raised in Toronto and Oakville.

Her interest in theoretical ecology had been caught years earlier, during the final year of her undergraduate degree in ecology and evolution at the University of Western Ontario. That's when she learned of the possibilities of using quantitative tools and models to help understand the natural world, from how bees share information in a hive to how predator-prey systems work to how ecological communities assemble. "I was just fascinated by all of that."

Funded by an award from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, Anand pursued her PhD with Prof. László Orlóci at Western. She manipulated models to understand and predict changes in an abandoned farm field reverting to forest — no straightforward process. "We know nature is not that well-behaved." Her doctoral work on complexity and ecological systems won a provincial award for excellence in re-

experiencing it.

She wound up exploring those lessons not in a journal article but in a poem called *Italian Scientist*, published in *Lichen* in 2003. Since then, Anand has continued to follow connections between science and poetry, although her creative writing goes beyond scientific or biological subjects.

This year she was invited to present her poetry and ideas at a workshop on "Creative Writing in Mathematics and Science," co-organized by the Banff Centre for the Arts and the Banff International Research Station for Mathematical Innovation and Discovery. She was selected last year to read at the Eden Mills Writers' Festival; this year, she discussed her poetry with writer D.M. Thomas at the Humber Summer School for Writers.

"Reading and writing poetry have been a passion for several years now," says Anand. "For me, poetry represents one of the highest forms of creativity with ideas and language. I think there might actually be analogues between how ecologists formulate their view of a particular system in a model and how poets capture a complex idea or process in a few lines."

search and technology development in 1997. Last year, Anand was recognized by her alma mater with its Young Alumni Award.

Although her studies are theoretical by definition, she says her work may eventually help inform policy decisions. More directly, Anand hopes her studies — and those of her graduate students and post-docs — help people think differently about the effects of human activities on the landscape, from the impact of smelters on forests to how climate change may affect population dynamics of such insects as forest tent caterpillars.

Her research involves its own share of links across disciplines and borders. She's currently collaborating on restoration and biodiversity studies with researchers at the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing, where she holds an adjunct professorship. Through the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research, she is working with colleagues in Brazil to study the impact of humans on forests.

Closer to home, she has collaborated with her husband, Prof. Chris Bauch, Mathematics and Statistics, on population dynamics of clonal plants. They have co-supervised a master's student at Guelph and are now co-supervising post-docs from France and the United States on two new projects.

Before landing her position at Laurentian, Anand completed a series of post-docs in the Netherlands, Israel, Italy and the United States, all within about three years. "I've had my tour of the world," she says.

During her post-doc in Trieste in 1997, inspiration struck from an unaccustomed direction. She found herself in Venice with a botanist studying the effects of air pollution on lichens and began pondering wider lessons about the difference between studying life and

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Do You Speak My Language?

New Chat Program pushes the right buttons to get people talking across campus

BY DAVID DICENZO

LYNNE MITCHELL wants to get people at U of G talking. And not just in English.

Mitchell, director of the Centre for International Programs, is spearheading an initiative called the Chat Program, which involves distributing buttons to help stimulate conversations across campus in a variety of languages. The buttons read: "Speak to Me in French," "Speak to Me in Mandarin," "Speak to Me in Ojibwa," etc., leaving it up to the wearer to decide which tongue to use or whether they would like to hear from game strangers.

For the recent annual Study Abroad Fair, Mitchell had 100 buttons made up, featuring a good sampling of popular languages — and they didn't last long.

"In two hours, they were gone.



People were really excited. It was just the mix we thought we would get — native speakers proud to wear the button for their language and people who don't actually speak the language but have always wanted to learn."

For Mitchell, the beauty of the program is that all it requires is to get buttons and awareness out there, leaving everyone to take it to whatever level they choose.

She first came across a version of the program at Queen's University a few years ago and figured it would be a great fit for Guelph as well, but wasn't sure how best to institute it. "The trick is, we want to involve the whole campus."

That means faculty, staff, graduate students and undergraduates — anyone willing to share, teach and learn their language of preference. This all-inclusiveness is something Mitchell particularly likes about the program.

"The teachers could be the students and the learners could be the faculty. It mixes everybody up and says language is important, so let's just open that door to letting people know that it's OK if you want to try to speak this language with me."

Before launching the Chat Program, Mitchell and program coordinator Monica Dyer talked to in-

ternational groups on campus to get their input on what languages to include on the colour-coded buttons. They determined that Hindi, Mandarin, French, Arabic, Spanish, Farsi (Persian), Italian, German and Ojibwa were good ones to start with, but they also included some blank buttons for people not represented by those languages.

"I think there are a lot of people on campus who would like to learn, practise or teach a language but can't seem to find the time," says Dyer, a Guelph student who'd like to improve her Spanish. "For me, the appeal of this project is that it's simple and doesn't require a lot of commitment. To participate, you just have to stick a button on your clothing or school bag."

Despite the simplicity, however, there are many benefits to be gained from this program, including community building and fostering multiculturalism at the University, she says.

Following up on the positive response at the Study Abroad Fair, Dyer says the next step is to create a new batch of buttons at a button bee. The Aboriginal Resource Centre and the new Office of Intercultural Affairs — the home of the all-important button maker — have been instrumental in developing the ini-

tiative so far, she says.

Mitchell also hopes to form a committee made up of representatives from across campus to help determine the course of the Chat Program. She invites anyone interested in joining an advisory committee to get in touch with her. Members of the University can also help out by hosting a basket of buttons, making a donation (\$50 is enough to create 100 buttons) or offering input on what languages should be on the buttons.

"The response has been extremely positive," says Dyer. "I hope to see many chat buttons around campus in the near future."

Mitchell adds that, although the program is primarily about learning languages, it also enables different communities to come together that may not have had the opportunity before. She specifically recalls the positive energy from those who eagerly dipped into the first basket of buttons.

"There were some international students who were surprised to find their language in the basket. It was really nice. They felt: 'Here I am. I am represented.'"

For more information, contact Mitchell at Ext. 56914 or lmitchel@uoguelph.ca or Dyer at mdyer@uoguelph.ca.

OAC Is Tops Again

FOR THE THIRD YEAR in a row, the Ontario Agricultural College's undergraduate weeds team won the annual Northeastern Weed Society's Collegiate Weed Science Contest, held in August near Newark, Del. And for the second year in a row, the team swept the top awards.

Members of the first-place OAC team were Jim Burns, Andrew Chisholm, Gerard Pynenburg and Chrissie Schill. Second-place OAC team members were Joel Hemingway, William Judge, Adam Pfeffer, and Blair Scott. Pfeffer, Schill and Burns also captured the top three individual undergraduate awards.

Two graduate teams competed, placing fourth and fifth in the contest. Team members were Allan Kastra, Eric Page, Evan Elford, David Van Dam and Daryl Vermey.

The teams are coached by Prof. Clarence Swanton, Plant Agriculture, with help from Page.

A total of 43 students from six universities participated in this year's contest, which gives students in northeastern Canadian and U.S. universities a chance to broaden their applied agricultural skills and test what they've learned.

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A Struggle for Human Rights

Sociologist's studies of social movements give her a voice for justice in El Salvador

BY REBECCA KENDALL

PROF. LISA KOWALCHUK, Sociology and Anthropology, was shocked when she read a story in a San Salvador paper that described a young Canadian woman who was leading a group of locals in a series of land invasions in rural El Salvador. What was shocking was that she was the woman being written about.

It was 1996, and Kowalchuk was a York University PhD student, studying the involvement of landless subsistence farmers, called campesinos, in social movements and the effects of their participation. She'd been interviewing a number of Salvadoran campesinos who'd been participating in land invasions that specifically targeted coffee plantations, and had been meeting with one particular group at a makeshift settlement on a public thoroughfare.

Some members of the group had taken her to meet with other organization leaders, and while she was gone, the mayor of Javaque, a small town in the western department of La Libertad, passed by the settlement and told the people they had to leave immediately or they'd be removed by force.

"One of the men, angry about what was going on, announced that they were being assisted by a Canadian woman who was there to help them," says Kowalchuk, who completed an MA at McGill University and taught at St. Mary's University in Halifax for four years before coming to Guelph in 2004. "That's how the story made it to the press."

The story then made it into the hands of government officials and to an immigration hearing — she had applied for temporary residency to continue her research — and she was interrogated for 90 minutes about her travels and her political views.

"They implied I was a socialist because I said I was a sociologist. They were also asking me whether I had visited specific areas in the country where land invasions had taken place. In most of the cases, I hadn't been to those places, but they thought I was involved and they ordered me to leave the country."

Only a few months into a new project funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Kowalchuk was faced with a forcible end to her research in El Salvador.

"I was scared and immediately made calls home to Canada and to a lawyer friend of mine. I had to be careful on the phone and choose my words carefully because I was pretty sure my phone was being tapped."

With help from the Canadian ambassador and the lawyer, she was able to get her deportation order frozen until she could collect enough material to prove she was in El Salvador strictly as an academic.

She proved her case and continues to travel back to the Latin American nation, although each time she gets to the border, she feels a pang of anxiety.

"I always wonder if this will be the



Prof. Lisa Kowalchuk connects U of G studies with pursuit of social justice. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

time they'll say: 'No, you can't come in,'" says Kowalchuk, whose work has been published in a number of journals, including *Sociological Quarterly*, *European Review of Latin American and Caribbean Studies* and the *Canadian Journal of Sociology*.

She's now analyzing the anti-privatization movement that began in El Salvador in 2002. She's focused on the dynamics of this social struggle and how it brought together many different groups, including many with no previous militant behaviour or mandate, to stop the privatization of medical care. This included labour groups, women's groups, church organizations and campesinos.

Of particular interest to Kowalchuk are the roles of the campesinos and the mainstream press, who shaped the messages being communicated.

She's exploring the strength of the movement and the reasons it bonded so many people from various walks of life toward a common goal. "What does this say about the future of social movements in the country?"

Salvadorans want to preserve what little health care they have, says Kowalchuk, who notes that, although some people have medical

medical care to private providers.

Success of the movement was mixed, says Kowalchuk. Although it achieved a moratorium on further outsourcing of health-care services, the government stopped short of agreeing to an outright ban on future changes to the country's health-care system, which is what the movement wanted.

Her interest in the political struggles of the people of El Salvador stems back to her days as an undergraduate student at McMaster University. At the time, there was a lot of support in Canada for the social movements of Salvadorans, and a lot of attention was focused on what was happening there, she says, noting that the history of El Salvador is marked by civil conflict, economic inequality, political assassinations and frequent human rights abuses.

The 1989 murder of six Salvadoran Jesuit priests who'd been working for peace drove Kowalchuk and a group of other students from McMaster to see the people's struggle first-hand.

"It wasn't enough to just know these things were happening. We felt we had to raise our voice and support their struggle for justice."

Her first trip to the country was in 1991, when the nation was embroiled in the 12-year civil war that killed an estimated 75,000 people. The students met with 15 to 20 organizations that were working for peace and human rights and made a secret visit to a guerrilla encampment, where they spent an entire night interviewing people about their stories.

"It had a huge impact on all of us. We took videos that we had to smuggle out. It was dangerous for the Salvadorans, but it was also impor-

tant for them to bring in members of the international community to see what was going on."

A few days after the Canadians departed, the encampment was attacked by the army, and Kowalchuk doesn't know what happened to those whose words and images travelled back with the group to Canada.

"After meeting these people who spoke about how they'd lost relatives and been detained and tortured, my commitment to struggles of social justice was solidified and I felt I understood more clearly why people were taking up arms in these situations."

One Salvadoran who has left a deep impression on Kowalchuk is a campesino-turned-activist called Ana Maria, whom she often stays with while in El Salvador. "Her home serves as a base for me."

They first met 10 years ago, and the woman has openly shared the details of her experience with Kowalchuk. At 19, she joined the guerrilla insurgency and was trained to provide medical attention to combatants. She witnessed the torture of rural women, saw crude surgeries performed, went days without eating and lost her first husband in the conflict. Kowalchuk is the godmother of the woman's youngest child, Wendy, now 12.

"Human rights violations are always something we should be concerned about," says Kowalchuk. "I think North Americans might not feel connected to things beyond our own borders or beyond our own postal codes, but many of the problems being experienced there are experienced here, although on a different scale."

She plans to return to El Salvador next spring.

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Guelph Finalizes Campus Agreement With Microsoft

Site licence provides free access to MS software

MICROSOFT Office Professional is now available for download at no cost to U of G staff and faculty or their departments. The recently acquired Microsoft Campus Agreement site licence includes the full 2003 suite of products — Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access Publisher, InfoPath and Outlook.

The new agreement will ensure that all U of G departments can upgrade their desktops to the latest campus release of MS Office, says Leon Loo, acting manager of academic services in Computing and Communications Services (CCS).

"This will enhance faculty and staff members' ability to share and work collaboratively in a consistent application environment across campus," he says.

Loo notes that these licences are intended for use on work-related activities, not for personal use, and apply only to U of G work-related computers, including home computers used for University business. Microsoft products not covered by the new MS Campus Agreement are still available for purchase through the Microsoft Academic Select program. Software downloads and more information are available from the CCS software distribution site at www.uoguelph.ca/ccs/downloads.

In addition to the current 2003 version of Office Pro products, the MS Campus Agreement will provide ongoing upgrade capabilities once the newest version of the Office Pro suite, MS Office Professional 2007, is available, says Loo. CCS is developing a roll-out plan for the 2007 version and will provide details prior to the software's release early in the new year.

Loo notes that CCS has been developing a site licensing program on campus in recent years.

"The goal is to enhance access to the software tools needed by the University community by removing or reducing barriers such as cost. The program is also designed to simplify software licensing compliance across campus. Many agreements within this program take time to negotiate and are built on trust relationships between the vendors and the University. We encourage individuals and departments to respect this relationship by complying with end-user licence agreements."

Individuals or groups who currently co-ordinate licences or are considering new licences can take advantage of CCS's software licensing resources, including the development of funding models and communicating and negotiating with vendors, says Loo.

Other software applications available to the University community include the McAfee Virus Scan software, statistical software packages, Adobe software applications, Macromedia products, GIS software and Oracle calendaring applications. Some of these products have a cost, but it's considerably lower than the off-the-shelf price paid off campus, he says.

The MS Campus Agreement site licence is an example of CCS's ongoing efforts to improve collaboration, consistency and cost savings in technology and software, says Loo.

"This fits into the strategic planning and fiscal responsibility mandates prevalent across campus, as well as the chief information officer's integrated plan released this year, including the iCampus vision."

For information about iCampus, visit www.cio.uoguelph.ca. Direct inquiries about the MS Campus Agreement or other software to the CCS Help Centre at 58888help@uoguelph.ca or Ext. 58888.

SABA SAFDAR

Faculty member in the Department of Psychology since 2002

When Prof. Saba Safdar leaves campus and drives home to Oakville, she's met by her running partner, Simon, a five-year-old sheltie-poodle cross. It's a nice welcoming for Safdar, who became an empty nester after her daughter, Newsha, moved away from home in September to study architecture at university.



Saba Safdar

Safdar and her pooch can often be spotted running along a neighbourhood path that curls its way around Lake Ontario. "It's quite nice to run there and see the movement of the water and how the environment changes from week to week," she says. "It's so drastic, especially this time of year."

It's also a good way to meet people in the neighbourhood. "Simon looks like a little teddy bear, and people often stop to talk to us."

Safdar is also a movie lover. She recently sat up until 4 a.m. watching *Kinky Boots*, a British comedy about an old-fashioned men's shoe manufacturer that starts producing high-heeled footwear for transvestites.

"I teach the psychology of gender, so stories like this interest me," she says. "It examines the way a small conservative town comes into contact with London's gay community."

This fall her attention will turn to the stage, and she'll head into Toronto to enjoy her season's pass to CanStage.

GRAHAM NANCEKIVELL

Research technician and lab instructor in the Department of Integrative Biology, staff member since 1977

For the past 25 years, Graham Nancekivell has been voicing his love of music as a member of the Guelph Chamber Choir. The choir, which holds weekly practices and performs four to six times a year, is holding its next concert titled "War, Peace and Justice... Lest We Forget" Nov. 11 at 8 p.m. at the River Run Centre. The show features Mozart's *Requiem*, accompanied by members of



Graham Nancekivell

Tafelmusik on period instruments.

"We're now ramping up our rehearsal schedule and preparing for dress rehearsals," says Nancekivell, a baritone who's been performing in choirs since he was a child. "If I hadn't gone into biology, my other career possibility was music," he says.

This summer, he travelled with the choir to perform in Austria and the Czech Republic.

Nancekivell also enjoys sitting in the audience to enjoy live theatre and concerts. He and his wife, Sharon, are season's ticket holders to Toronto's Tarragon Theatre and the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony series at the River Run Centre.

He also loves listening to the voices of some other notable singers who perform around his cottage just south of Algonquin Park.

"I'm a bit of a birdwatcher. It's something that's nice to do while I'm out walking. It's interesting to see how they interact with the environment, and the cottage is a beautiful place to be this time of year."

IAN MATHERS

Master's student in the Department of Philosophy

Music strikes a chord with Ian Mathers, who has turned his interest in music into a side gig as a reviewer. For the past six years, he's been putting his thoughts about the work of different bands into print. He began reviewing CDs for the *Ontario* during his first year at Guelph and eventually worked his way up to becoming the paper's arts and culture editor for 2003/2004.

Mathers now writes music reviews for an online music magazine called *Stylus* that is based in New York. He's been writing for *Stylus* for the past three years and is currently its only Canadian contributor.

"We easily get more than a million readers daily," says Mathers, who is blending his background as a music reviewer into a thesis on the aesthetics of criticism.

"I don't tell people what to buy; instead I want readers to read my reviews and know whether or not they would like the band or the album based on what I've written."

He also works part time at Alumni House as a tracing clerk, a job he started in January 2005 after four years of employment there.



Ian Mathers

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Go Wild With Liv Wylde

Zoology student brings the magic and wonder of nature to children with a book series featuring a khaki-clad adventurer made of clay

BY REBECCA KENDALL

OLIVIA KOVANA WYLDE is always prepared for adventure and ready to explore the Earth's mysteries and wonders at a moment's notice. Dressed in khaki shorts, hiking boots and her signature beige outback hat, Wylde, better known as "Liv" to her friends, has travelled the world and seen its deepest waters, its most rugged terrain and its greatest heights. She's also been introduced to David Suzuki. Not bad for a 20-something zoologist who's made of clay.

"Liv isn't prissy, she isn't perfect and she doesn't talk down to kids," says fourth-year zoology student Jessica Morrison, creator of a new book series for kids that features the plucky down-to-earth character.

"She isn't afraid to get dirty, and she doesn't mind getting a little scraped up. She isn't afraid of wild animals, but rather fears that the wild world will get overlooked as time goes on and humans will forget that they, too, are animals and will be unwilling to include others in their local and global decisions. She's basically me."

Morrison, who spent her summer doing conservation work in New Zealand and has spent several summers working at an animal sanctuary, says she's been kicked in the head by deer and bitten by raccoons, skunks, birds, porcupines and squirrels.

"I've got the scars to prove it," she adds, motioning to her leg. "The price of admission into the world of hands-on animal experience is high, but it's completely worth it. I have strong ideas about how humans should relate to the world and to animals, and I needed to express this."

The first three titles in Morrison's Liv Wylde book series, which focuses on creatures that live in the sea, on land and in the air, were published by Benchmark Publishing and Design and released in June.

"I think one of Liv's biggest strengths is her ability to explain complex issues in a way that's easy for others to understand," says Morrison. "She can take difficult scientific subjects and relate them to stuff that young people already understand, like explaining bioluminescence in relation to a root beer float."

Liv Wylde made quite an impression on Suzuki this summer when they were introduced in Windsor, where Suzuki was holding a book signing to promote his autobiography. He was presented with Morrison's books and later sent the budding author a letter expressing his delight in the collection and his best wishes for her future success.

Each book tells of an adventure Liv is taking and the animals she encounters along the way. In *Canadian Capers*, she discusses the play activities of animals such as the North American porcupine, the black bear and the eastern grey squirrel. She explains to her young readers that animals use play to practise defence



Jessica Morrison says her Liv Wylde character is "basically me."

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

mechanisms and predatory skills.

Flying Frenzy takes readers on an adventure to Indonesia and puts them in contact with some of the island nation's flyers, such as the palm cockatoo and the Atlas moth, and some "fake flyers" — creatures that glide through the air rather than fly. These include the flying lemur and the paradise flying snake.

Liv takes readers under water in *Marine Marvels* to explore the sea's food chain and to examine the characteristics of aquatic animals that help them survive in their environment. The list of underwater creatures featured includes krill, sharks, starfish and the viperfish, one of the fiercest and most elusive predators of the sea.

Each book includes a series of ac-

tivities to keep kids thinking about the creatures they've just read about, as well as a glossary of scientific terms and a list of the animals discussed.

The stories feature detailed two- and three-dimensional scenes sculpted using clay and Plasticine in colours that Morrison mixes herself. She designs and crafts everything from blades of grass, tree bark and animal tracks to the fine features and markings on her cast of wild and diverse creatures. She also takes the photographs of the scenes that appear in her books.

Although the books took only a few "intense" months to produce, they've been years in the making, says Morrison, who has written and illustrated three additional titles and

is doing the finishing touches in preparation for their winter release. In the upcoming books, Liv will explore the Sonoran Desert, the Arctic Circle and Costa Rica and explain how the animals that live there survive in heat, extreme cold and the rainforest.

An avid wildlife watcher, Morrison has early memories of spending

time outdoors tracking, observing and learning about the animals that inhabited the area around her home.

"My favourite thing to do as a kid was to play in the woods. I learned early on that I related to animals differently than other people did. I saw them as equals among creatures, and I think there's more to them than people give them credit for. Animals and humans may not look alike, but we're a lot more similar than most of us like to admit."

When Morrison was a child, she wanted to read books that shared this philosophy, but she almost always came up empty-handed. Her book series was initiated to fill the void she found and to encourage a new generation of children to discover — or rediscover — the magic and wonder of nature, she says.

"I hope there are kids out there who will pick up my books and think that they're exactly what they've been looking for. I truly believe the series can help children relate to nature on a very fundamental level and be accepting of their surroundings. The more kids learn to care about nature, the more open they'll be to sharing space with wildlife and respecting their place in the world. After all, you don't need to be a biped to earn respect."

For a look at Morrison's work, visit www.livwylde.com.

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Engineering Team Up and Running

RETIRED ENGINEERING professor Trevor Dickinson brought home the final leg of a School of Engineering relay team that finished in the top 20 corporate groups entered in the Toronto Marathon Oct. 14.

The Iron Ringers finished 17th out of 102 corporate teams entered in the race. Eight faculty members and graduate students from the

School of Engineering clocked a time of just over three hours and 33 minutes to complete the course. The top relay team finished in just under two hours, 50 minutes.

Led by graduate student Mohit Prajapati, Profs. Stefano Gregori and Karen Gordon began training last summer with Dickinson and four other graduate students from the school.

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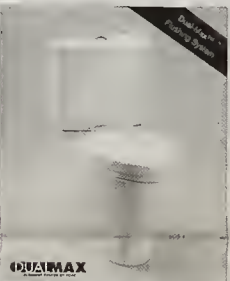
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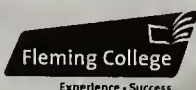
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Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken on campus, you will have your name entered in a draw to be held at the end of the semester for a \$50 gift certificate donated by the U of G Bookstore. Anyone who submits the right answer by Oct. 27 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca or call Ext. 56039. The following people correctly reported that the Oct. 11 photo was taken in the Adelaide Hoodless Garden: John Van Manen, Jennifer Barrett, Donna Mokren, Tim Mau, Karen Leachman, Linda Hoffman, Cathy Walsh, Carmelina Ridi, Pauline Corcoran, David McGee, Karen Bertrand and Linda Zehr.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL

Bacterium Found in Calves

Continued from page 1

C. difficile is recognized as the major cause of colitis (inflammation of the colon) and diarrhea. The bacterium is primarily acquired in hospitals and chronic-care facilities following antibiotic therapy covering a wide variety of bacteria, and is the most frequent cause of outbreaks of diarrhea in hospitalized patients. It has caused severe hospital outbreaks in Quebec and Great Britain; in the United States alone, it causes

about three million cases a year.

Earlier this month, Weese, who specializes in diseases that pass between animals and humans, his colleague Prof. Henry Staempfli and Rodriguez-Palacios found *C. difficile* in the feces of about 11 per cent of dairy calves they tested in Ontario.

They found that the cattle strains were indistinguishable from those that have infected humans. Weese says there could be several explanations for this. The strains may be evolving in parallel in different species, for example, or there may be

regular movement of various types of the bacterium among different species.

"Further study is needed to evaluate these possibilities," he says.

Their study will be published in an upcoming issue of the journal *Emerging Infectious Diseases*.

The follow-up research looked at ground beef and ground veal that was purchased randomly from grocery stores in Guelph and tested over a period of several months. Weese says they now plan to expand the study to include other provinces.

Holocaust Survivor, Activist to Speak

Continued from page 1

Room 533 of the University Centre. At 7 p.m., the film *Uganda Rising* will be screened, with an introduction by GuluWalk founder Adrian Bradbury. The location is to be announced.

John Dear, an anti-war activist and priest, will speak on "The Wisdom of Non-violence" Nov. 9 at noon in Peter Clark Hall. Dear is the author of some 20 books on non-violence, including *Living Peace and Peace Behind Bars: A Journal From Jail*. In the course of his civil disobedience against war, Dear has been arrested more than 75 times. He was incarcerated for eight months for participating in a Plovershare Movement disarmament action. As a result, he lost his voting rights, is prohibited from travelling to certain countries and is subjected to intense

scrutiny at airports.

Also on Nov. 9, a Hate Crimes Vigil sponsored by residence life staff and campus collaborators, begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Bullring.

On Nov. 10, a Peace Fair featuring information displays runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the University Centre courtyard.

U of G's annual Remembrance Day ceremony is Nov. 10 at 10:30 a.m. in War Memorial Hall. The service will be broadcast on TV monitors in Centre Six.

The week will also include a presentation by a Holocaust survivor, sponsored by the campus Jewish Students' Organization as part of Holocaust Awareness Week. As details are finalized, they will be published on the Peace Week website at www.uoguelph.ca/~peace.

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

Zenith 19-inch colour TV, good working condition; battery-operated GE transistor AM radio; CD storage tower for about 100 CDs; dark green queen-sized bedskirt with matching shams; Fisher-Price toddler booster seat for table, 519-821-2524.

Bedroom suite with mates single bed, two dressers, one with mirror and one with bookcase, Ext. 53640 or lindamck@uoguelph.ca.

1988 Cadillac Brougham, dark blue, excellent condition, painted in 2002, 177,000 km, as is, 519-823-0579 or sfavrin@uoguelph.ca.

1994 Volkswagen Jetta, 1.8L, four-door manual, 177,000 km, certified, e-tested; 1989 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme, automatic, 240,000 kms, as is, runs well, dtocek@uoguelph.ca.

Futon, comes with rack, good condition, 519-767-0630.

Gordon Lightfoot tickets, Massey Hall, Nov. 18, great seats, 519-836-0164.

1979 Yamaha dirt bike, good running condition; 52-inch Mitsubishi TV, needs repair; 2005 Specialized Hardrock bike, new rims and tires, front disc brakes, many upgrades; 2005 Manik Norco bike, Ext. 52043, 519-821-7069 or barbp@uoguelph.ca.

Two extra long couches; hibiscus rosa-sinensis plant, blooms red, photos available, best offer, Ext. 52113 or arbor@uoguelph.ca.

Three-bedroom, three-storey house in Westmount neighbourhood of Kitchener/Waterloo, two baths, finished attic, close to uptown Waterloo and Belmont Village, move-in condition, MLS#0637314, cvictor@uoguelph.ca.

MasterChef propane barbecue, used one season, excellent condition, 519-763-0575 or marsha@uoguelph.ca.

Women's RH Tideist DCI irons, steel shaft, four iron to pitching wedge, Ext. 58808 or eking@uoguelph.ca.

FOR RENT

One-bedroom walkout basement apartment, separate entrance, parking for two vehicles, shared washer and dryer, non-smokers, no pets, available Nov. 1, \$750 a month inclusive, 519-763-2381.

Two-storey coach house, one bedroom plus den, patio, five appliances, parking, suitable for professional or grad student couple, non-smokers, no pets, \$900 a month plus utilities, 519-836-7807 or kenmullen99@hotmail.com.

Furnished room in three-bedroom shared apartment, two baths, laundry, female preferred, \$425 a month inclusive, 519-763-8444 or CelineAkram@rogers.com.

New townhouse at Kortright/Edinburgh to share with mature OVC student, Internet, parking, laundry, suitable for grad students or faculty on sabbatical, no pets, available January to April 2007, \$650 a month inclusive, 519-265-2112 or rmarceli@ovc.uoguelph.ca.

One-bedroom walkout basement apartment in quiet neighborhood off Eramosa Road, suitable for two people, 519-822-3371 or 519-835-8085.

Two-to four-bedroom bungalow in old University area, recently renovated and painted, two baths, appliances, new deck, laundry room, sun-room, attached garage, suitable for family or professional couple, available now, \$1,400 a month plus utilities, 519-824-6237.

Two-bedroom apartment in Holy Rosary Church area, newly painted, separate entrance, parking, 519-821-2537.

Three-bedroom house in quiet neighbourhood in south end, suitable for visiting faculty or post-doc, non-smokers, no pets, available now, \$300 a week inclusive, Susan, 519-824-5440.

Three-bedroom country home, 2½ baths, 10-minute drive to campus, no pets, available late December to April 2007, dates negotiable, \$1,250 a month inclusive, 519-836-2714.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in southwest Paris, France, short-term rental; furnished two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, weekly or monthly, Nicole, 519-836-6745 or finmoll@rogers.com.

WANTED

Part-time nanny to look after four-month-old son in our home, close to downtown, 20 hours a week, flexible time, good wages, Christie, cyoung@uoguelph.ca.

Room in apartment or shared house with a mature student or young professional for January, non-smokers, no pets, Paul, pkarayac@yahoo.ca.

U of G nutrition researchers seek seven- and eight-year-old boys for study of zinc intake, compensation provided, Melissa, 519-820-2633 or zip@uoguelph.ca.

U of G study seeks mothers, fathers and 17/18-year-old sons or daughters currently living in the same home to discuss how time spent together and apart influences their relationships, Lynda, Ext. 58051 or lasbbour@uoguelph.ca.

Furnished room for one month in March or April for co-op student at OVC, prefer quiet dwelling, Michelle, 613-540-1673 or michelle-rose21@hotmail.com.

Tutor to teach Mandarin, luis@lmjts.com.

Used Legos in sets or bulk, Jesse, Ext. 52403.

MISSING

Two seven-foot flags — an Ontario flag and a Canadian flag — on a stand were borrowed from Alumni House this spring or summer and never returned. The flags are used as a backdrop at U of G announcements. If anyone knows of their whereabouts, contact Gisele Angel at Ext. 56437.

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Care for your dog in my home while you travel, 836-8086 or cdmembers@uoguelph.ca.

Classifieds is a free service available to staff, faculty, students, alumni and retirees of the University. Submit items to Linda Graham on Level 4 of the University Centre, fax to 519-824-7962 or send e-mail to Lgraham@exec.uoguelph.ca.

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EVENTS

ARBORETUM

Opening Nov. 4 at Theatre in the Trees is *There's a Burglar in My Bed* by Michael Parker. Directed by John Snowdon, it runs to Dec. 16. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.; showtime is 8 p.m. Cost is \$59. To order tickets, call Ext. 54110.

The Dufflebag Theatre presents *Robin Hood* Nov. 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the Arboretum Centre. Tickets are \$5.

ART CENTRE

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre presents a gallery talk and walkabout tour by Guelph artist Ryan Price on his exhibition "... draw while ... " Oct. 31 at noon.

Works to be auctioned off at MSAC's annual "Beyond the Frame" fundraiser are currently on exhibit at the centre. The auction is Nov. 18 at 7 p.m. A reception begins at 5:30 p.m. For more information, call 519-837-0010.

CONCERTS

The School of Fine Art and Music's Thursdays at Noon concert series continues Oct. 26 with Indonesian music and dance, Nov. 2 with percussionist Jesse Stewart and Nov. 9 with the Mirobolus Piano Trio. Concerts are in MacKinnon 107. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

FILM

U of G's free international film series, "Beyond Hollywood," presents *Pearls of the Deep*, featuring five short films by top Czech filmmakers, Nov. 5 at 7 p.m. in McLaughlin 384.

LECTURES

The College of Arts research-in-progress series continues with Prof. Catherine Carstairs, History, discussing "Rat Poison or Dental Miracle? The Debate Over Water Fluoridation" Oct. 25 at 12:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 132.

The College of Biological Science's Roy C. Anderson Memorial Lecture in Parasitology presents Albert Osterhaus of Erasmus University Medical Centre in the Netherlands discussing "H5N1 Avian Influenza Virus: A Real Threat to Animal and Human Health" Oct. 30 at 12:10 p.m. in OVC 1714.

"Ontario's Agri-Food Research Infrastructure: Monuments to the Past or Beacons to the Future?" is the topic of Bruce Archibald, deputy minister, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, in OAC's public lecture series Nov. 1. On Nov. 14, the Stewart Lane Public Policy Lecture features Nicholas Kalaitzandonakes of the University of Missouri-Columbia discussing "GMOs, Product Labels and Consumer Behaviour: Sentiments and Acts." The lectures begin at 5:30 p.m. in OVC 1714.

NOTICES

The Central Student Association and Student Life and Counselling Services' Citizenship and Community Engagement are hosting a debate for Guelph mayoral candidates Nov. 2 at noon in Peter Clark Hall. There will also be a meet-and-greet with candidates for Guelph City Council's Ward 5 seats. On election day Nov. 13, a polling station will be set up in UC 103 for students registered to vote.

Rufina Amaya, the sole survivor of the 1981 massacre of her community in El Salvador's civil war, will speak Nov. 2 at 7:30 p.m. in UC 103. The talk is presented by the Central Student Association's human rights office and the Multi-Faith Resource Team.

Prof. Paul Rowntree, Chemistry, invites third- and fourth-year students to attend an information session about the Guelph Near-Space Initiative Oct. 27 from 5 to 6 p.m. in MacNaughton 113. Rowntree will discuss plans to launch sub-orbital balloons next March, carrying a series of student-designed experimental payloads. For more details, contact Rowntree at Ext. 58127 or rowntree@uoguelph.ca.

The Stress Management and High Performance Clinic is running a four-session program for managing headaches beginning Nov. 7 at 7:30 p.m. in UC 332. A four-session examSMART program begins Nov. 7 at 5:30 p.m. in McLaughlin 359. For information about fees and registration, visit www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers or leave a message at Ext. 52662. You can also register for examSMART at the McLaughlin Library Learning Commons.

The Next Great Prime Minister contest is calling for submissions from Canadians aged 18 to 25. Top prize is

\$50,000. Submissions are due Dec. 8. For information, visit the website www.thenextgreatprimeminister.ca.

U of G faculty and staff women who love to sing are invited to join No Wrong Notes — a non-auditioned, non-performing, non-instrumental group. It's open to women of all levels of singing ability and experience, but is limited to 10 participants. It will meet once a week, usually at noon. For more information, contact Maryann Kope by Nov. 2 at Ext. 58313 or mkope@uoguelph.ca.

Inco Limited, in partnership with the Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation, is offering four \$10,000 master's scholarships in engineering for women in 2007. Application deadline is Jan. 19. More information is available at www.cemf.ca.

The Canadian Foundation for the International Space University is calling for applications for the 2007 International Space University summer program, to be held at Beihang University in Beijing, China. The deadline for applications is Jan. 5. For details, visit www.aucc.ca/programs/intprograms/space_e.html.

SEMINARS

The Centre for Food and Soft Materials Science seminar series presents Simon Sharpe of the University of Toronto discussing "Structure and Dynamics of Proteins in Membranes and Macromolecular Assemblies by Solid-State NMR" at 2:30 p.m. in Room 1511 of the science complex.

Next up in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology's graduate student seminar series is Sarmitha Sathiamoorthy exploring "Phage Therapy: A Solution to Antibiotic Resistance?" Oct. 27. On Nov. 3, the topic is "Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia Virus: Molecular Epidemiology of a Fish Pathogen" with Rob Quinn. The seminars begin at 12:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 115.

The Department of Human Health and Nutritional Sciences seminar series continues Oct. 30 with Prof. Getu Hailu, Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics, examining "Determinants of Obesity: An Empirical Study of Canadian Adults." On Nov. 6, Prof. Mark Hurtig, Clinical Studies, discusses "Risk Factors for Progression of Osteoarthritis After Knee Injury." The seminars are at 1:30 p.m. in Food Science 241.

"Single Protons and Proton Pairs for Quantum Communication" is the topic of Gregor Weihs of the University of Waterloo Oct. 31 in the Department of Physics seminar series. On Nov. 7, Thad Harroun of Brock University considers "Neutron Diffraction for Biology." The seminars begin at 4 p.m. in Room 1511 of the science complex.

The Department of Pathobiology presents Pierre Tellier of Charles River Laboratories discussing "The Role of Veterinary Pathologists in Industry" Nov. 10 at 2 p.m. in Pathobiology 2106.

TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services' series on Photoshop continues with a discussion of colour Nov. 7 and text Nov. 21. A luncheon for new faculty Nov. 20 will focus on effective course outlines. A new-faculty social is slated for Nov. 21. For those using WebCT in their courses, TSS has developed two new workshop streams — self-guided and guided — to help designers and instructors set up their winter '07 courses. Individual help is also available at WebCT drop-in clinics Wednesdays from 1 to 4 p.m. in McLaughlin 200A. For more details or to register for workshops, visit www.tss.uoguelph.ca. To discuss custom training opportunities, call Mary Naim at Ext. 53571.

THEATRE

U of G's drama program presents *Suzie Go: Private Secretary*, a musical comedy written and directed by Prof. Sky Gilbert, Nov. 14 to 18 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 18 at 2 p.m. at the George Luscombe Theatre. Tickets are \$7 and \$9 and are available at the door or in Massey 102.

THESIS DEFENCE

The final examination of PhD candidate Nicholas Pokorny, Environmental Biology, is Oct. 27 at 9 a.m. in Bovey 1118. The thesis is "Molecular-Based Detection and Identification of *Cryptosporidium parvum*." The advisers are Profs. Hung Lee and Jack Trevors.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Guelph Youth Music Centre is hosting a Musical Chairs Gala Nov. 10 at 6 p.m., featuring an evening of food, fun and games, with music by the Swing Station Band. For tickets, call 519-837-1119.

The YMCA-YWCA of Guelph's 2006 Women of Distinction speaker series presents retired educator Susan Ratcliffe discussing "Discovering Guelph's Heritage" Nov. 8 at 7 p.m. For information or to register, call 519-824-5150.

The Guelph International Film Festival, newly renamed the Guelph Festival of Moving Media, runs Nov. 3 to 5. The opening gala will be held at the River Run Centre. The opening films, *The Art of Resistance* and *The Refugee All Stars*, will be introduced by Profs. Ajay Heble and Daniel Fischlin, English and Theatre Studies. The festival will also feature panel discussions and programs for children and youth. For more information, visit www.guelphfilmfest.org or call 519-822-3110.

Fibre artists of the Guelph Guild of Handweavers and Spinners are presenting a show and sale of their art Nov. 4 and 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Wellington County Museum and Archives.

The 2006 Community and Volunteer Education Series runs Nov. 4, featuring a free day of workshops open to the Guelph/Wellington community, especially those who do volunteer work. For information or to register, send e-mail to info@volunteerguelphwellington.on.ca or call 519-822-0912.

The Guelph Guild of Storytellers meets Nov. 1 at 7:30 p.m. at the Co-operators Building. An evening of storytelling is slated for Nov. 8 at 8 p.m. at the Boathouse. For more information, visit www.guelpharts.ca/storytellers.

The annual Canadian Parrot Conference runs Nov. 4 and 5 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Guelph Holiday Inn. For information, visit www.canadianparrotconference.ca.

Out on the Shelf, Guelph's Queer Library and Resource Centre, is celebrating its first anniversary Oct. 29 from 2 to 5:30 p.m. at 147 Wyndham St. N., Room 309. The event will include readings by a number of writers and poets, including Prof. Sky Gilbert, English and Theatre Studies.

The Guelph Historical Society presents a talk by lawyer and active reservist Greg Oakes on "Wellington County's Other War Poets" Nov. 7 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Andrew's Church.

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Guelph Ranked No. 1 in Three National Surveys

Maclean's ranking caps 'astonishing week' for U of G

BY LORI BONA HUNT

U OF G RECLAIMED the No. 1 spot in the annual *Maclean's* ranking of universities released Nov. 2. It's the third national survey in recent weeks to name Guelph the top comprehensive university in the nation.

"Obviously, we are very pleased to once again be named No. 1," says president Alastair Summerlee. "The *Maclean's* ranking caps off quite an astonishing week for us — three top placements — and this remarkable achievement is due entirely to the extraordinary people and programs we have at Guelph."

On Oct. 31, U of G was ranked at the top of its class for overall educational quality, reputation and atmosphere in the 2006 University Report Card published by the *Globe and Mail*, which represents the opinions of about 32,700 undergraduate students across Canada.

Including both published and online results, U of G earned a total of three A-pluses, 14 A's and 12 A-minuses on its report card. It was

ranked No. 1 or tied for the top ranking in several key areas, including sense of personal safety and security; library services; overall satisfaction with the university experience; and reputation for undergraduate and graduate studies, professional schools and among employers. Faculty received top marks for subject knowledge, availability outside the classroom and conducting leading-edge research.

On Oct. 24, U of G was named Canada's top comprehensive research institution in the annual Top 50 Research Universities ranking. The survey by Research Infosource Inc. ranks Canada's universities based on sponsored research income. U of G was first in its category and placed 13th overall with research income of nearly \$126 million in 2005. In terms of research intensity (the percentage of research funding per faculty member), U of G placed 10th among all universities in the country.

In the *Maclean's* overall survey, Guelph was named the top compre-

hensive university in Canada, followed by the University of Waterloo and the University of Victoria.

U of G was ranked first in five of the key areas that determine the placements — quality of students, graduation rates, classes taught by tenured faculty, quality of faculty and student services. The University also maintained or improved its performance in 19 other categories.

In an accompanying reputational survey in the magazine, Guelph was ranked second overall and second in each of three categories used to determine reputation: highest quality, most innovative and leaders of tomorrow.

Maclean's also published the results of its graduate survey, in which participants were asked to rate their alma mater. In that survey, U of G was No. 1 among comprehensive universities in seven of the eight categories for educational excellence.

Guelph was also named the top comprehensive university by *Maclean's* in 2003, 2002 and 1999.

See *MACLEAN'S* on page 18



A Wheel Bargain

Physics student Bayden Pritchard runs the Central Student Association's Bike Centre, a free do-it-yourself repair shop that's a big hit with campus riders. See story on page 16. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

CIDA Awards \$4.7M for Work in Ghana, Sri Lanka

OAC profs lead efforts to enhance resource-poor livelihoods, help restore tsunami-affected areas

BY RACHELLE COOPER

TWO U OF G PROJECTS, one that will use agroforestry practices to enhance resource-poor livelihoods in Ghana and one that will help restore the tsunami-affected areas of Sri Lanka, have received nearly \$5 million from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

The Ghana project received \$3 million from CIDA Tier 1 funds over six years. Tier 1 projects are managed by CIDA's universities and colleges program and promote major development and institution-building projects. This is the first time U of G has received Tier 1 funding.

The Sri Lanka project received \$1.7 million from CIDA under the tsunami reconstruction facility program. The project was developed by a consortium of Canadian universities, including U of G, the University of Manitoba, Queen's University and the University of Waterloo.

"These announcements reflect

the efforts and commitment of people at the University of Guelph to become engaged globally," says Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research). "The University has a distinctive presence on the international stage, to which many faculty, staff and students contribute.

We are delighted that these two projects, and the people leading them, are being acknowledged with this support, and we welcome interactions with partners abroad."

Prof. Andy Gordon and research associate Naresh Thevathasan of the Department of Environmental Biol-

ogy are heading the Ghana project. Their goal is to enhance livelihoods in resource-poor communities using agroforestry technologies.

Increasing degradation of the natural resource base relied on by rural communities is a major contributor to a persistently low quality of life

in central and northern Ghana, says Thevathasan.

"This is why agroforestry land-use technologies have been identified as a key aspect in promoting environmentally sustainable cropping practices that will foster food and

See *CIDA* on page 18

Ridgetown Centre Officially Opens

State-of-the-art facility to provide innovative programs, community space

BY LORI BONA HUNT

A \$7-MILLION EDUCATION and training centre that will offer rural Ontario residents leading-edge teaching, learning and extension opportunities has opened at U of G's Ridgetown Campus.

The 30,000-square-foot Rudy H. Brown Rural Development Centre houses classrooms, a lecture theatre, an auditorium, meeting rooms to

support innovative research and learning, as well as administrative offices and community areas for local events. A grand-opening event was held Nov. 7 at Ridgetown, and a public open house is planned for Nov. 10 from 2 to 8 p.m.

"This project is an incredible demonstration of the power of partnership," says president Alastair Summerlee. "Thanks to the investment and support from the provin-

cial government, the University, industry and the community, we now have a fabulous centre that will drive innovation."

The provincial and municipal governments provided some \$4.7 million for the project, with the additional \$2.3 million being raised by the Ridgetown College Agri-Food Foundation. The foundation was initiated by the late Rudy H. Brown, for whom the centre is named. He

taught at Ridgetown for 33 years and was known across Ontario for his extension activities.

"The McGuinty government is pleased to contribute to a facility that supports Ontario's rural communities," says Leona Dombrowsky, minister of agriculture, food and rural affairs. "Ridgetown's new state-of-the-art facility will provide students with innovative new programs,

See *RURAL* on page 18



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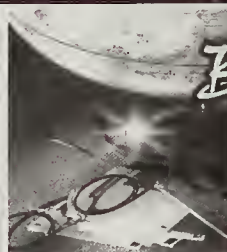
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from the president

Guelph a Longtime Leader in Undergraduate Learning

Editor's note: President Alastair Summerlee welcomes comments on his column at president@uoguelph.ca.

WHEN IT COMES TO THE TEACHING and learning experience of undergraduate students, Guelph has been blazing a trail for others to follow for more than a century.

Back in 1910, for example, the first-ever course devoted to Canadian literature was taught by an Ontario Agricultural College professor. His interdisciplinary experiment was a harbinger of the modern University of Guelph, which remains strongly committed to path-breaking pedagogy.

Over the years, many of U of G's best ideas for making a strong learning environment have been adopted by other universities. One such innovation is our supported learning groups, which are attached to courses whose content proves to be especially difficult for many students.

Like Guelph, other universities in Ontario and across Canada are always looking for new ways to provide the most supportive, yet most challenging learning environment for their students.

Just as research cannot stand still or ground is lost, so it is with teaching and learning in the 21st-century university. The domains of knowledge are more elastic and dynamic than ever. Sometimes it seems as if knowledge is now doubling every few minutes. Universities like Guelph that aim to embrace these dynamics need to challenge themselves to be sure that, organizationally, they can also be responsive to rapid change.

The undergraduate curriculum is the lifeblood of our efforts to transmit knowledge and to invite students to join faculty on the important journey of research. Knowledge is more than facts, of course. It's also the way we organize what we know and the way we think about reimagining ourselves and the world in which we live.

And increasingly, research crosses back and forth across the boundaries of the traditional domains of knowledge. Recent developments in neuroscience, bio-engineering and international development are all good examples of the interdisciplinary routes open to researchers and the next generations of students.

In the history of universities, the curriculum has traditionally followed several paces behind leading-edge research. But it's different here at Guelph. We've already made great strides in bringing together students and professors at the crossroads of knowledge, and today there are numerous examples across campus where

the current and future generations of researchers are working side by side on innovative projects.

This was the context for the provost's White Paper on the undergraduate learning experience. Published last November, the paper invited broad dialogue about how Guelph can expand on its unique and already strong learning environment. It collected and presented ideas large and small to guide and stimulate discussion. Following the release of the White Paper, the provost charged the associate vice-president (academic) with leading a University-wide effort to review and renew our undergraduate learning environment and keep us on the leading edge. This is being achieved through a 21st-century curriculum committee. Substantial conversations have been organized with every undergraduate curriculum committee in every academic department. There have also been consultations with the Board of Undergraduate Studies (BUGS), the U of G Faculty Association, Student Senate Caucus and many others.

This process identified four major areas for further thought: the first-year learning environment; institutional processes; innovative learning opportunities; and the research and teaching link. Working groups have now been struck and are expected to report back to the University community early in the winter semester with recommendations for action. It is expected that these will be considered by the steering committee and, as appropriate, the governance processes: program committees, BUGS and Senate. Details of membership and the timeline can be found on the web at www.21c.uoguelph.ca.

As we all know, knowledge is more dynamic than ever, and both the content and the structures of the curriculum need to keep pace. At its best, the curriculum is a living organism; it needs growth, renewal, even tender loving care. And in an era of static—if not shrinking—resources to support our programs, attending to the curriculum is just that much more difficult and more necessary, to ensure that we are using our resources to their maximum effect to support the undergraduate learning environment.

At Guelph, we have always aimed to pursue research and teaching with equal vigour. I predict that, in the next while, these two activities will converge more and more in institutions of higher learning throughout the rest of the province, the country and the world.

And, just as we have so many times in our 132-year history, Guelph has once again broken the trail and is leading the way.

New Funding Available for Women's Safety Initiatives

THE ONTARIO Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities is again providing U of G with funding to support women's safety initiatives on campus.

Accredited student groups, student governments, staff, faculty and employee groups at U of G are eligible to apply for the funding, which is to be used to implement findings of safety audits, to educate and inform students and employees about safety and security issues, and to support programs that address the safety and

security needs of women on campus.

Types of initiatives eligible for funding are facilities and equipment, education and awareness raising, and skills-based training, says Mahejabeen Ebrahim, associate director of human rights and equity and chair of U of G's Women's Campus Safety Initiatives Committee. Initiatives funded in the past have included improved campus lighting, installation of emergency poles and self-defence courses for women.

Proposals for innovative initia-

tives are particularly encouraged, says Ebrahim, who notes that the deadline for submissions is Nov. 16 at noon.

All initiatives receiving funding must be completed by March 30, 2007.

Send applications to Ebrahim in the Human Rights and Equity Office or fax to 519-822-1131. Further information and a funding application are available on the web at www.uoguelph.ca/hre/safety/proposals.shtm.

at GUELPH

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UNIVERSITY
of GUELPH

LEST WE FORGET

U of G will hold its annual Remembrance Day Service Nov. 10 at 10:30 a.m. in War Memorial Hall. Although classes won't be cancelled for the service, the president requests that faculty grant consideration to students who miss some class time to attend the service. Supervisors are encouraged to allow employees sufficient time to participate as well. The service will also be broadcast on the TV monitors in Centre Six.

DODDS NAMED NEW CHAIR OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Douglas Dodds, executive vice-president and chief strategy officer of Maple Leaf Foods Inc., has been appointed chair of U of G's Board of Trustees, succeeding Bill Brock. Dodds, a former chair of Board of Governors, was first appointed to the Board of Trustees in 1999. A Fellow of the Society of Management Accountants of Canada, he is also chair of the board of directors of the Equitable Life Insurance Company of Canada, the Home-wood Corporation and Maple Leaf/Canada Bread Corporate and Executive Councils.

SYMPOSIUM TO HONOUR VET

The Ontario Veterinary College will honour retiring pathobiology professor Bruce Wilkie with a symposium Nov. 17 at 12:30 p.m. in Room 1714 of the Lifetime Learning Centre. Scheduled speakers are Jan Naessens of the International Livestock Research Institute in Kenya, Alan Teale of the University of Stirling in Scotland, Michael Ratcliffe of the University of Toronto and Prof. Pat Shewen, Pathobiology. The symposium will be chaired by Profs. Bonnie Mallard and Shayan Sharif and will be followed by a reception.

CIHR PRESENTATION SET

A free luncheon presentation on the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Institute of Aging and its strategic priorities and funding will be held Nov. 23 from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in Room 441 of the University Centre. Former U of G gerontology professor Anne Martin-Matthews, now scientific director of the Institute of Aging, will discuss "Funding Research From Cell to Society, From Promise to Practice." RSVP to the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences at Ext. 56753 or mhracken@uoguelph.ca.

U OF G WEBSITE FEATURED

EDUCAUSE, a non-profit association that aims to advance higher education by promoting the intelligent use of information technology, will feature the U of G website as its "Site of the Week" beginning Nov. 20. The site is located at www.educause.edu/community.

DAY TO FOCUS ON SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AT GUELPH

U of G's Science and Engineering Sunday, designed to help high school students, parents, teachers and guidance counsellors learn more about the University's engineering and science programs, runs Nov. 12 from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

These Teachers Are Tops!

Annual U of G Faculty Association awards recognize classroom contributions



This year's winners of the U of G Faculty Association teaching awards are, from left, Profs. Cecelia Paine, John Dawson, Wayne Martin and Ruediger Mueller.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

FOUR FACULTY MEMBERS were honoured Oct. 26 at the annual presentation of the U of G Faculty Association's awards for excellence in teaching and librarianship. Launched in 1984, the awards are made on the basis of student evaluations, letters of support from students and colleagues, and the recipients' efforts in the area of curriculum development.

UGFA president Prof. David Josephy says he's "delighted" with the quality of this year's recipients. "They're a remarkable group of faculty covering a wide range of career stages, which I'm particularly pleased to see. I was happy to present these awards on behalf of all our members."

Prof. Wayne Martin, Population Medicine, received the Distinguished Professorial Award for the Ontario Veterinary College. A two-time graduate of OVC who joined the college's faculty in 1974, he was cited for his openness, availability, innovation, mentorship abilities, commitment to excellence and passion for his discipline.

In a supporting letter, a colleague wrote that Martin "has served as the

inspiration for a whole generation of young veterinary epidemiologists." A student noted that his "love of life and epidemiology is infectious, and his students feel honoured to have had him as a teacher and mentor."

Prof. Cecelia Paine, Environmental Design and Rural Development, is this year's recipient of the Distinguished Professorial Award for the Ontario Agricultural College.

Paine, who joined the University in 1990, was recently inducted as a Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects, which called her one of the premier women educators and leaders in Canada.

In the supporting letters for her UGFA award nomination, she was described as accessible, approachable, enthusiastic, committed and caring. Said one student: "She has shown such passion and professionalism as a professor and as a human being. I couldn't have asked for a better role model."

The Distinguished Professorial Award for the College of Arts was presented to Prof. Ruediger Mueller, Languages and Literatures, who joined the University in 2000 and received a College of Arts Teaching Award in 2004.

Mueller was described as a "thoughtful, dedicated and outstanding teacher" who has done much to enhance the vitality and visibility of Guelph's German studies program. He was also cited for the respect and encouragement he gives his students. Wrote one undergraduate: "His faith that his students have something valuable to say and his skill at helping us say it makes him one of the best teachers I have had."

UGFA presented its 2006 Special Merit Award to Prof. John Dawson, Molecular and Cellular Biology, who was also this year's winner of the College of Biological Science Teaching Award.

A faculty member at Guelph since 2002, Dawson was cited as a teaching scholar who is not only an enthusiastic and caring teacher in the classroom but who is also genuinely interested in researching and promoting innovative teaching strategies.

Wrote one colleague: "As the University continues to make progress in support of the scholarship of teaching and learning, John has emerged as one of the pioneers in this important area."

people

KEVAN TO JOIN POLAR YEAR CANADIAN ADVISORY COUNCIL

Prof. Peter Kevan, Environmental Biology, has been invited to be a member of the Canadian Advisory Council for the International Polar Year 2007/2008 for a two-year period. During 2007/2008, the international polar research community will celebrate the 125th anniversary of the first International Polar Year and the 50th anniversary of the International Geophysical Year.

FELLOWSHIP AWARDED

Prof. Jeevika Weerahewa, Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics, has been selected as a fellow of the Hewlett/International Agricultural Trade Research Consortium (IATRC) capacity building program. She is one of 12 fellows selected from more than 50 international applicants to participate in IATRC programs over the next three years.

PROF IS GUEST COMPOSER AT BELGIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL

Prof. James Harley, Fine Art and Music, was an invited guest composer at the Transit Festival in Leuven, Belgium, Oct. 27 to 29. He was commissioned by the festival to compose a new work for the Canadian ensemble Trio Fibonacci, and the score premiered in Leuven Oct. 29. Harley also participated in a round table and debate on music composition today.

VOLUNTEER WORK HONoured

Retired crop science professor Neal Stoskopf and his wife, Nora, were recently named Paul Harris Fellows by the Rotary Club of Guelph. The fellowships recognize those who make a significant difference in the lives of people locally, nationally or internationally. The Stoskopfs were honoured for their volunteer service to orphans overseas.

PAINTINGS ON EXHIBIT

Prof. Lee L'Clerc, Languages and Literatures, will have a show of new paintings titled "All Over the Place" Nov. 25 to Dec. 23 at Lehmann Leskiw Fine Art, 626 Richmond St. W., Toronto. The opening reception is Nov. 25 from 2 to 5 p.m.

NEW PLAY TO BE STAGED

A new play by Prof. Keith Slater, Engineering, is being staged this month by the Elora Community Theatre at the Grand Theatre in Fergus. *Undercover Operation*, a mystery farce, runs Nov. 17 to 19 and 23 to 25 at 8 p.m., with a 2 p.m. matinee Nov. 19. For tickets, call 519-843-4852. Slater also recently participated via satellite in the BBC Radio 4 series *Costing the Earth*.

IN MEMORIAM

Retired OAC associate dean Gordon Ball died Oct. 28 at age 89 in Arizona. A graduate of OAC and Iowa State University, he taught at Iowa State for 24 years before returning to Guelph. He served as associate dean from 1973 until his retirement in 1982. He is survived by his wife, Aline, and his children and grandchildren.

Senate Committee Calls on OAC Profs

Experts to offer advice on rural poverty study

BY ANDREW VOWLES

TWO U OF G PROFESSORS will use their rural development smarts to help advise a Senate committee that hopes to fight rural poverty in Canada.

Profs. Harry Cummings and Tony Fuller, School of Environmental Design and Rural Development, are among some 10 experts from across Canada helping to determine the scope and terms of reference for a study of rural poverty. The study, to be conducted by the Senate standing committee on agriculture and forestry, is expected to yield recommendations by spring 2007.

"This process will flesh out ideas on policy recommendations to help alleviate rural poverty," says Meghan Mahoney, assistant to Senator Joyce Fairbairn, chair of the Senate committee in Ottawa.

In announcing plans for the study earlier this year, Senator Hugh Segal said about two million Canadians lack adequate food and shelter and access to medical and social services.

"Tony and I are both well-known for work on rural development," says Cummings. He has studied the economic impact of agriculture on

rural communities in Canada and in developing countries such as Ethiopia and Malawi.

He's currently helping to develop a counselling program for farm families in crisis in the Haldimand-Norfolk region, based on his earlier family counselling work in several Ontario communities.

Cummings plans to emphasize how rural poverty varies in different regions of Canada, how rural poverty affects native Canadians and the need to avoid one-size-fits-all poverty measures.

"A government program might not reach all people," he says. "They're often unable to access programs because of location or lack of high-speed Internet access. These are factors that make rural poverty a different dimension than urban poverty."

As director of the sustainable rural communities research program, Fuller has studied how inadequate public transportation affects elderly people, women and youth in rural Canada.

"Without frequent access to a car, people are quickly marginalized from normal activity in a rural area," he says. "This is a particular problem for the working poor."

Lecture to Focus on Foreign Policy

First deputy secretary-general of UN to speak

U OF G WILL ONCE AGAIN play an active role in "The Guelph Lecture — On Being Canadian," to be held Nov. 10 at 7 p.m. at the River Run Centre. The annual event features literary and musical performances and a lecture that aims to inspire community conversation on what it means to be Canadian and Canada's role in the world.

This year's lecture focuses on Canada's foreign policy and will feature Louise Fréchette, the first deputy secretary-general of the United Nations, and Brian Stewart, a foreign affairs analyst and senior correspondent for CBC's *The National* and host of CBC's *Our World*, a weekly current affairs program.

Before the lecture, vocalist Ndidi Onukwulu and guitarist Madagascan Slim will perform with their band, and U of G president Alastair Summerlee will give a welcoming introduction.

"The Guelph Lecture is a wonderful opportunity for people with different perspectives and experiences to come together to exchange ideas and work to evoke change," Summerlee says.

The 7 p.m. event officially begins with a performance by Prof. Diane Nalini, Physics, a jazz singer/songwriter. She will perform selections

from her album *Songs of Sweet Fire*, a collection of sonnets and songs from the plays of William Shakespeare that she has set to original jazz, funk and blues music.

In addition, renowned Canadian actor Martha Henry, who is often referred to as "the first lady of the Canadian stage," will read selected passages from Shakespeare.

Nalini and Henry's appearances are in honour of "Shakespeare — Made in Canada," a major cultural festival sponsored by U of G that will begin in January.

After the performances, Fréchette will give the keynote address in conversation with Stewart. Fréchette, who was the UN's deputy secretary-general from 1997 to 2005, has also been named one of the 100 most influential women in the world by *Forbes* magazine.

She is currently a Distinguished Fellow at the Centre for International Governance Innovation in Waterloo.

The lecture is organized by the Eramosa Institute, a local charitable organization that promotes greater understanding of ideas and issues of concern to Canadians. Tickets are \$20 general, \$15 for students, and are available by calling the River Run Centre box office at 519-763-3000 or visiting www.riverrun.ca.

board of governors

B of G Updated at First Meeting of 2006/07

AT ITS FIRST MEETING of the fall 2006 semester, Board of Governors was updated on several University initiatives, including the multi-year agreement (MYA) with the provincial government and ongoing fundraising activities. Routine semester financial reports were also presented for both the main Guelph campus and University of Guelph-Humber.

Prof. Maureen Mancuso, provost and vice-president (academic), reported that U of G had completed its MYA, a new requirement for funding in which universities must specify actions, commitments and reporting methods to achieve desired outcomes.

U of G's agreement outlines Guelph's goals for maintaining and improving quality, access and accountability over the next three years. Mancuso said it was a major undertaking, but the extensive work already done on University initiatives such as integrated planning, the White Paper and the President's Task Force on Accessibility positioned Guelph well to meet the new requirement. U of G was one of only a few universities to meet

the province's filing deadline, she added.

In terms of fundraising, board members received an update on the work of the board's development committee towards achieving U of G's \$17-million fundraising goal for this academic year, an increase in the target of 20 per cent over last year.

John Miles, assistant vice-president (finance), presented a financial update to the board. He reported that the University's total research income now exceeds \$145 million and that, overall, its total revenues have grown by 2.2 per cent to \$510 million. But expenditures will exceed revenues by about one per cent this year because of rising benefit costs, especially pensions, he said.

John Walsh, vice-provost and chief academic and chief executive officer at the University of Guelph-Humber, reported that enrolment is steadily increasing there. Coupled with cost-reduction measures, the growth has produced a \$1.8-million surplus, which will be applied to the debt incurred when Guelph-Humber was created, he said.

Local Consortium Promotes Community Energy Planning

University members invited to attend Nov. 15 presentation, information session

U OF G IS PART of a local consortium that has teamed up to promote the concept of community energy planning. U of G staff, students and faculty and other community members will have an opportunity to learn about the initiative at a presentation and information session Nov. 15 at 5 p.m. in Room 1714 of the Ontario Veterinary College's Lifetime Learning Centre.

"The goal is to set the scene for the need for community energy plans, to describe some efforts by leaders in the international community and to present the work done on Guelph's plan," says Gillian Maurice, the University's sustainability co-ordinator. "We're hoping the presentation will spark discus-

sion and allow the community energy planning group to solicit feedback and public opinion from the University community."

At the presentation, international energy expert Peter Garforth will provide an overview of the process to date. The Purdue University professor and consultant is known for his success in working with communities, corporations and policy-makers to reduce energy consumption. He is serving as a consultant on the Guelph initiative.

Other members of the consortium are the City of Guelph, Guelph Hydro Inc., Union Gas, the Upper Grand District School Board, the Guelph Chamber of Commerce, the Wellington Catholic District School Board, the Guelph Developers Asso-

ciation and the Friends of Guelph.

"As one of Guelph's largest energy users and the nation's greatest academic institutions, the University of Guelph is well-positioned to play a leadership role in educating citizens and students," says Dorothy Remmer, the local consultant on the energy initiative.

"Through input and action, the U of G community can help guide the development and design of a long-term, broad-scale community energy plan that will help ensure the sustainability and security of Guelph's energy future. Such a positive outcome, if achieved, would make Guelph and the University of Guelph role models for Canada and beyond."

Campus d'Alfred Marks 25 Years

Founding members to be recognized during special presentation

BY ANDREW VOWLES

CAMPUS D'ALFRED will host a special celebration marking its 25th anniversary Nov. 18.

The event will include a banquet as well as a ceremony to recognize the founding members of the campus. Organizers expect about 300 people to take part in the celebration, including some 200 alumni, as well as representatives of government, education and the franco-phone community.

Founding members, officials and community members who helped establish the agricultural college in 1981 will be recognized during a special presentation, along with two founding staff members who still work on the campus. The event begins at 4:30 p.m. in the campus main building and gymnasium.

As one of two French-language campuses in Ontario, Alfred offers diploma programs in agricultural technology, environmental manage-

ment and food, nutrition and risk management. Through a partnership with Collège Boréal in Sudbury, the campus also provides a veterinary technology program. Certificate programs are offered in landscape and horticultural studies, veterinary office administration, and food service and dairy herd worker.

Alfred's 135 students (110 at the associate diploma level and 25 at the certificate level) come primarily from eastern Ontario and western Quebec but also from outside Canada. Alumni now total about 1,000.

The campus is home to an organic dairy research centre as well as projects in waste-water treatment and anaerobic digestion technology.

"They have done pioneering research in waste-water management," says founding member Jean Poirier, who retired last year after 35 years working a fourth-generation farm near Alfred. A former MPP and former president of l'Association des

communautés franco-ontariennes, Poirier is honorary president of the 25th-anniversary celebration.

Alfred is part of U of G's network of campuses and research stations throughout the province. Under interim director Marcel Couture, Alfred is developing a strategic plan for the campus's research and teaching services. A new director is expected to be appointed next spring.

Last summer, the campus launched a souvenir history book of Alfred called *L'histoire du Collège d'Alfred d'après ceux et celles qui l'ont bâti*. The book details the often-rocky path that led to the establishment of the agricultural college on the site of a former reform school.

Speaking of the close-knit nature of the campus, Nicole Tessier, head of student and conference services, communications and alumni relations, says: "It's a family — you have to be a family."

Touched by the Children

Eye-opening stay with Kenyan orphans forges personal and professional connections for Guelph prof



U of G geography professor Barry Smit and his daughter Hannah pose with children from the orphanage in Kenya where they volunteered.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BARRY SMIT

BY LORI BONA HUNT

PROF. BARRY SMIT, Geography, has travelled the world enough to know that it's impossible to come home from an international journey unaffected by what you've seen and experienced.

He's had a lot of practice at it, too. His work as an academic, as an adviser to a United Nations panel on climate and as holder of the Canada Research Chair in Global Environmental Change has taken him to some 60 countries, most of them developing nations.

Smit has worked with people facing dire conditions, most recently those struggling for survival and sustainability amid the problematic effects of climate change.

But even this seasoned globetrotter wasn't prepared for the aftershocks he felt after returning home from Kenya in September. He spent three weeks there volunteering at the Simba Shelter Rehabilitation Centre, an orphanage that's located "in the middle of nowhere."

The trip was the idea of his 19-year-old daughter, Hannah, a student at the Ontario College of Art and Design.

"She came to me and said: 'Will you do this with me?' And I didn't hesitate. If there's something one of my daughters wants to do, I always say yes."

But he didn't know the daddy-daughter trip would turn out to be such a life-affecting experience. The orphanage is in the countryside about two hours outside Nairobi, near the town of Ngong. It's close to the edge of the Great Rift Valley, which drops some 4,000 feet and is home to the nomadic Maasai. Every morning, Smit would watch farmers walking their livestock along the top of a ridge that overlooked the deep valley.

"I learned to say 'suba,' which means 'hello.' Even a simple greeting goes a long way."

With the help of some of the older children who served as interpreters, Smit started talking to villagers about how they're being affected by climate and other forces. He learned that there's a shortage of water and that the situation has become so bad, some farmers have

had to kill their livestock.

"Then they have to leave the village because the most shameful thing for a Maasai is to kill livestock. They can't face their neighbours after that."

One thing led to another, and now Smit, along with graduate student Lisa Westerboff, is planning to research the water shortage and sustainability issues in the region, using a Maasai village as a case study.

But stumbling across a new research project was just an added bonus. What captured Smit's attention most on the trip was the children at the orphanage. They range in age from 18 months to 18 years, and he was profoundly touched by all 120 of them.

"We have so much — God, we have so much — and these kids have nothing. But what a joy of life these kids have. They have so little, yet they're so happy."

Over the years, he's met lots of children on his international journeys, so he knows how swiftly they can work their way into your heart. Still, there was something different about this trip and these children, he says. Maybe it's because he lived in the orphanage with them. Or maybe it's because he wasn't there as a professor but as a volunteer and a father, which gave him a kind of freedom to experience things in a new way.

In any event, Smit can't stop thinking about the children: how they'd climb all over him and how they'd play endlessly with the soccer ball and the guitar he'd brought them. And how the older boys, starved for attention from male role models, would follow him around.

He spent hours working with them on their English (their common language is Swahili), talking about everything from geography to how airplanes work.

"I didn't know very much about some of the things they asked, but I often knew more than they did. I would challenge them to figure things out — that's my way of teaching — and I sure learned from them."

But, he adds, the most important thing the volunteers give the children is attention and love. "The little ones want nothing more than to be picked up and carried around."

In his office in the Hutt Building, Smit scans through photos of some of the children on his computer screen. Boys and girls alike are closely shorn and are dressed in an odd assortment of clothing. About half of the children in the orphanage have lost either one or both parents to AIDS. Many of them were also abused "in one way or another or in a million ways," he says.

But in almost every photo, the children are laughing and smiling, even in the shots of them doing chores like laundry. Clothing is in such

short supply that the children share outfits, making washing a daily job, says Smit. They use buckets and scrub boards, and the water is so cold, he couldn't bear to plunge his hands into it for more than a few seconds. But the kids just scrub away without complaint.

They also eat the same thing every day at every meal: maize. It's cooked as watery cereal for breakfast, made into a corn mash called ugali for lunch and turned into a stew called githeri for supper.

On rare occasions, they might have some greens," says Smit. "They never had meat while I was there. Once they even ran out of food."

He and Hannah would sometimes leave the gated and guarded orphanage — intended more to keep undesirable people and animals like leopards and hyenas out than to keep the children in — to go into the town to buy fruit and other food for the children.

"We have so much — God, we have so much — and these kids have nothing," says Smit. "But what a joy of life these kids have. They have so little, yet they're so happy."

Looking at a photo taken at the orphanage, he points out the children by name. There's Gideon, the bright and promising 10-year-old that the Smits are now sponsoring so he can go to school. Although the orphanage has a classroom, there's no teacher. A few lucky children who are sponsored get to leave the orphanage to attend a residential school during the week, returning on weekends. But when the money runs out, so does their opportunity for learning.

Then there's 12-year-old Laticia Mercy. She's also very bright but feisty, which has got her into trouble in school in the past. The smile on Smit's face indicates that he has a soft spot for that kind of spiritedness in a child. He and Hannah are also paying to send Laticia Mercy back to school.

"In my view, school is what's going to help them in the long term. It's the best way to help them with the transition from orphanage to the outside world, which they'll have to face when they're 18. Enhancing opportunities for education is first on my long list of things we identified as important needs."

Of course, that list of needs is endless. Just for starters, the plumbing is substandard, food and clothing are in short supply, and there's no medical care.

"Basically, their health plan is hoping like heck that no one gets seriously ill," says Smit.

A doctor friend of his from Guelph is going to Kenya to help out at the orphanage in the new year.

Smit also hopes to return soon. He and Hannah plan to hold a fundraiser later this fall where they'll show slides, serve ugali and talk about their trip. Smit will take the money back to the orphanage personally to ensure that it gets to the children.

"I lived with these kids. I ate most of the same food they did, had the same cockroaches they had in their rooms, tried washing my clothes when they washed theirs, and hung my things next to theirs on the same fence to dry. Yes, it was just for three weeks, but you form a personal connection. For me, it's important not to just walk away from that and come home saying: 'Done that, now what?' Actually, it's impossible for me to do that."

He's Got the Music in Him

BY DAVID DICENZO

SAM BAIJAL is a familiar face around the University Centre. He can't walk through the campus hub without saying a bunch of hellos or waving at someone who recognizes him from a distance.

"If you stick around here long enough, you get to know a lot of people from all over the map," says Baijal, a member of the programming team in one of the campus's busiest buildings.

A 1987 BA graduate of Guelph, he has worked for the UC administration in various capacities for about 20 years. After earning his degree in geography and biophysical resources, he had started in on a master's degree, but decided to pursue other interests — interests that eventually enabled him to carve out a career he loves.

"It just sort of evolved over time," he says of his job at the UC. "As a student and then a part-time guy, I used to do setups for special events. Somewhere along the way, I became part of University Centre Programming. It came because of my background in music. My No. 1 passion in life is music."

The passion runs so deep that Baijal can quickly recite the list of concerts he'll be attending in the coming weeks, including gigs outside the country. He can't even guess the number of shows he's been to in the last 25 years and admits that he's a *Deadhead* after seeing the legend-



Sam Baijal helps make shows happen as part of the University Centre programming team.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

ary Grateful Dead perform at least 200 times.

Although catching shows is one of his favourite pastimes, arranging them for the University is equally gratifying. "Here at the UC, the job is about helping to make shows happen," Baijal says.

He notes that Guelph has a tremendous history of campus concerts, including appearances by musical heavyweights such as Great Big Sea, Barenaked Ladies, Sarah MacLachlan, Bruce Cockburn and

Billie Joel.

Through his work at the University and as artistic director for the local Hillside Festival, Baijal has made plenty of industry contacts over the years. And finding acts for Guelph isn't difficult, he says.

"The University environment has always been really great for developing artists. You'll see people play here and then a year later, you hear more about them. This is a very fertile market for artists to perform in, and UC Programming has been

really core to that for many years."

Baijal notes that U of G offers a wide range of concert venues, including the UC courtyard, the Brass Taps, Peter Clark Hall and War Memorial Hall. He calls War Mem "a gorgeous theatre," a sentiment shared by Canadian singer-songwriter Sarah Harmer when she paid a visit to the hall while touring potential concert venues.

"Sarah walked in there and said: 'Where have you been hiding this place?' he recalls. "The history there

is phenomenal. It's a great room."

The UC also presents shows at the River Run Centre, including a recent Cockburn concert and several appearances by children's writer Robert Munsch in support of the U of G Child-Care and Learning Centre.

Besides programming music, Baijal brings vendors into the UC who sell a variety of items, such as Tibetan scarves and CDs. He says he's extremely careful about whom he brings in and what they sell.

"We really respect that students can't be bombarded. We're very careful about how promotions happen and that, when vendors come in, it doesn't feel like it's a mall."

He's also part of the team that co-ordinates Fair November, an annual exhibition and sale of fine Canadian crafts that turns 32 this year. He estimates that 35,000 to 40,000 people walk through the UC doors over the course of the four-day fair, which this year runs Nov. 16 to 19.

He attributes the event's popularity to a couple of factors — the hand-picked vendors are offering unique, well-made crafts, and the UC is a great setting to display them in.

"There's a history and identity to Fair November because it takes place in this building. You don't mess with something that has an identity."

Fair November runs Nov. 16 and 17 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Nov. 18 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Nov. 19 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

A Tough Row to Hoe

Living up to expectations a difficult chore for many Dutch-Canadian farmers profiled in new book

BY DAVID DICENZO

PROF. FRANS SCHRYER, chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, is fascinated by stereotypes, particularly the positive stereotypes associated with the farmers from his native Holland who settled in Canada. They have a reputation for being successful, but that positive label has had some negative effects, he says.

After many years of research, Schryer is now telling their story in his new book, *Farming in a Global Economy: A Case Study of Dutch Immigrant Farmers in Canada*.

"Dutch farmers in Canada are known for being successful," he says. "And statistically, they are indeed overrepresented. About 30 per cent of the farmers who came here after the Second World War bought their own farms. The fact that they have a

reputation as 'good farmers' is an example of a positive stereotype, but that doesn't mean all the Dutch are rich and all Dutch farmers are successful.

"A lot of families were so adamant about getting a farm that their children had to work for many years and didn't get an education. If they were lucky enough to take over a family farm, fine, but not all of them did. There are many Dutch immigrants from rural Netherlands who are working in dead-end jobs."

Schryer suggests that the attempt by many immigrants to live up to the high standards of the successful farmers meant that they made tremendous sacrifices and worked extremely hard. For those who fell short of their goals, there was bitterness and frustration, particularly later in life, about having gained so

little from their efforts, he says.

"The social pressure to live up to the ideal meant that a lot of Dutch immigrant farmers ended up being disappointed. Some told me they regretted having tried farming in the first place. Few of them would have had to suffer such hardships if the positive stereotype had not emerged."

Most of Schryer's research over the years has focused on rural Mexico, but his Dutch roots and early exposure to farmers from his homeland after immigrating to Canada at age 10 were the impetus for his fourth book, published by Brill Press based in Holland.

Schryer was born in the town of Schiedam near Rotterdam, but grew up in The Hague, a government town that offered little exposure to agriculture. After moving to Canada, his family eventually took up residence in a small cottage in Fairport Beach near Pickering, and it was here in southern Ontario that the "city slicker" first met Dutch farm immigrants and their children while he was attending grade school.

In 1990, Schryer published the book *The Netherlands Presence in Ontario: Pillars, Class and Dutch Ethnicity*, focusing on the large cohort of immigrants from the Netherlands

and the former Dutch East Indies who arrived in Canada between 1947 and 1960.

After years of going back and forth to Mexico to do anthropological research, "I wanted to do some work in my own backyard," he says. "I thought it would be a short, quick project."

In fact, it turned out to be a 10-year project, with Schryer spending hundreds of hours visiting Dutch immigrants all over Ontario but particularly in the area between Toronto and Sarnia, where a high concentration of Dutch families live. He conducted some 350 interviews for the book and, once it was completed, decided to take his study a step further and focus on Dutch farmers.

Through numerous interviews, Schryer began to understand how farmers from the Netherlands became commercial farmers in Canada and how they developed their reputation.

One reason is rooted in the perception of agriculture in Holland, he says. There, farming is a prestigious occupation. In addition, the Dutch have been trendsetters in the industry, perfecting techniques for the past 200 years. Schryer notes, for example, that immigrant farmers came to Canada with a thorough knowl-

edge of fertilizers, whereas many of their Canadian counterparts weren't interested in using them.

Another reason these farmers came to be well-known in rural Ontario has to do with their sheer numbers, due to the mass exodus of Dutch people following the Second World War, he says. With the countryside ruined from battles, the people fled, looking for new opportunities to restart their lives.

"The Dutch had this ability to mobilize a family labour force," says Schryer. "That gave them a competitive advantage in terms of being able to send their kids off to factories to make lots of money, then save enough for a down payment on a farm."

Although this topic is near to Schryer's heart, he admits it isn't the sexiest subject matter, which initially made it difficult to get the book published. He submitted it to numerous publishers, including Brill, and was rejected each time.

Like the subjects of his research, however, he persevered and, after reworking the content and title to give it broader appeal, approached Brill again. "I'm very relieved and happy that it's out," he says, adding that he will now return to focusing on his work in Mexico.



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Helen Maciag

OMAFRA Funds Research in Reproductive Technologies

New group taps expertise in OAC, OVC

BY ANDREW VOWLES

TAKING SOME of the guesswork out of farm animal reproduction — a multi-million-dollar business in Ontario — is the goal of a newly funded research group based at U of G.

Researchers in the Ontario Veterinary College and the Ontario Agricultural College will work together on projects intended to improve reproductive technologies used in food animals, poultry and fish.

The group will use more than \$2 million in new funding from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) for studies intended to enhance food-animal production and food safety and to help increase profits and competitiveness for the province's agricultural sector.

"Reproductive technologies have become one of the most fundamental aspects of agriculture," says Prof. Allan King, Biomedical Sciences, co-leader of the group with Prof. Gregory Bédécarrats, Animal and Poultry Science.

Researchers from their departments make up the bulk of the new 12-member group. One investigator is in the Department of Population Medicine, and another is at Queen's University.

Under the project, called "Reproductive Technologies: From Test Tubes to Animals," the researchers span interests in fish, cattle, poultry, swine and sheep. They plan to collaborate on studies of everything from cattle cloning, reproductive hormones and pregnancy to transgenic pigs, fish development, and evaluation of semen and embryos from artificially inseminated bulls.

In various farm animals and aquaculture species, reproductive success is still largely a matter of trial and error, says King. That may mean

higher costs and lower efficiency for producers when, for example, cloned cattle develop unexplained malformations or when farmed fish produce non-viable eggs.

The U of G team hopes to better target animals likely to respond to reproductive technologies and address problems in everything from development of sex cells to growth of offspring. The researchers will study new and existing technologies, including cloning and stem cells, artificial insemination in dairy cattle and light-controlled induction of egg laying in hens.

In the spring, the group learned that OMAFRA will provide a total of more than \$2 million over four years through its sustainable production systems research program. That money will help support their work on campus and at research stations in Ponsonby, Arkell, Elora and Alma. It will also support graduate students that the group expects to train in reproductive technologies.

"It's the production of the next generation of scientists and technicians," says King, who holds a Canada Research Chair in Animal Reproductive Biotechnology.

Operating funds will also come from other sources over the next four years, including grants from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

"Guelph is the place with the most qualified people to put a team together," says Bédécarrats, referring to team members' strengths in reproductive biology, molecular biology and genetics, animal production, and endocrinology and immunology. He has identified brain hormones that stimulate or inhibit reproduction in chickens and plans to use equipment in King's lab to learn more about where and how these molecules work.



Wayne Coveyduck is the first non-veterinarian to hold the top administrative job at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital in more than 20 years. PHOTO BY BARRY GUNN

New Head of Vet Teaching Hospital a Transplant From Human Health Sector

Appointment comes at crucial time in OVC history, says dean

BY BARRY GUNN, OVC

SOMETIMES A FRESH perspective is just what the doctor ordered. Wayne Coveyduck will be putting that theory to the test over the next few months as the new executive director of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH).

Coveyduck, who started his new job Oct. 1, is the first non-veterinarian to hold the top administrative job at the hospital in more than 20 years. He comes to the Ontario Veterinary College after 21 years of working in an acute-care hospital environment — for humans.

"This was simply a great opportunity for me to try something new," says Coveyduck, who began his career in his home province of Newfoundland and was most recently the CEO of the Temiskaming Hospital in New Liskeard, Ont.

"But I think what really convinced me to come here was meeting

the dean and bearing her vision for the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. This is a tremendous opportunity to be involved in change, to help the organization grow in terms of admissions and the services we offer to clients, and to develop new facilities."

OVC dean Elizabeth Stone says Coveyduck's appointment comes at a crucial time in the college's history. The VTH plays a central role in OVC's teaching and research activities, handling some 16,000 cases a year in facilities that were designed to accommodate a fraction of that number.

"The OVC hospital is our window to the world," says Stone. "We need to work harder to meet the needs of the pet-owning public and our referring veterinarians. This is essential in order for us to maintain the caseload necessary for learning and research. Plus our students need the hands-on experience of being

part of a well-run service delivery team. Wayne brings a wealth of experience and knowledge from the human health sector, which will help the OVC hospital achieve future success."

Coveyduck says his top priority in the short term is getting to know the people who work at the VTH and finding out from them how the unit is organized and what works and what doesn't.

"They have all the answers. I need to figure out how to ask the right questions."

He sees being a layperson as an advantage, rather than a disadvantage, when managing the day-to-day business of running a hospital.

"The clinicians have enough on their shoulders — they shouldn't be distracted by the administrative process. I can lighten their burden by making it easier for them to focus on what they do best — practising veterinary medicine."



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An Exception to the Rule

New director of the School of English and Theatre Studies started out courting a different career

BY DAVID DICENZO

PROF. MARK FORTIER firmly believes that serendipity had a hand in the journey that led him to Guelph. The recently appointed director of the School of English and Theatre Studies joined U of G this summer after spending the last 10 years as a faculty member at the University of Winnipeg, including the final three years as chair of English. But Fortier almost bypassed the academic life entirely.

Like many of his colleagues struggling to find a secure teaching job in the mid-1990s, the Windsor native says he faced some tough decisions. After completing a BA at the University of Windsor, an MA at the University of Toronto and a PhD at York University, he did teaching stints at Trent University and U of T for the next five years. But he sought some stability and decided that law school and a career in the courtroom would be the best way to achieve it.

"I guess everyone has a road not taken, the thing they might have done," says Fortier, who attended law school at U of T before the Winnipeg opportunity arose. "For me, that road was always law. It was interesting; I certainly enjoyed it. But two years in, I got a tenure-track job, the kind of job I'd been looking for all along. I had to look into my heart and talk it over with friends. They all thought I was more an English professor than a lawyer."

Fortier, a specialist in Shakespeare, contemporary theatre and cultural studies, says he has no regrets about his decision to study law. He completed that degree on a sabbatical while out west — something he doesn't necessarily recommend — and actually uses the knowledge



Prof. Mark Fortier says his law studies taught him a type of rational orderliness and a way of proceeding through questions that have proven useful to him as an administrator. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

in his work today. He says he's always adapted to his surroundings — not just going where the jobs are but also taking advantage of opportunities presented to him. In Winnipeg,

one of those opportunities was serving as department chair. Fortier quickly realized he had a knack and an appreciation for administration, a discovery that eventually led him to

apply at Guelph.

He arrived at U of G during a staff evaluation year, so his first few months have been particularly busy, he says. But Fortier is settling in and looking forward to some things he never had the opportunity to do at Winnipeg.

"It's a very strong school here. And it's nice to be associated with that. I didn't have a chance at Winnipeg to be part of a graduate program, and I'd gotten to the point in my career where I thought that was an important contribution for me to be able to make. It's also nice to be back in Ontario."

Fortier grew up as a literary kid with an appreciation for Shakespeare. His interest in the Bard grew as a PhD student, with adaptations being his main focus. Although his scholarly interests have moved in other directions over the years, he always finds his way back to Shakespeare, he says.

Although new to Guelph, Fortier has long had a link to the University through his collaborations with SETS professor Daniel Fischlin. They co-edited the 1996 edition of James I's *The True Law of Free Monarchies* and Basilikon Doron, the 2000 book *Adaptations of Shakespeare: A Critical Anthology of Plays From the 17th Century to the Present* and the 2001 book *Royal Subjects: Essays on the Writings of James VI and I*.

A prolific writer, Fortier is the author of dozens of articles and reviews and two books: *Theory/Theatre: An Introduction*, a 1997 textbook that had a second edition in 2002 and was even translated into Korean, and the 2005 book *The Culture of Equity in Early Modern England*.

He says he'll eventually have to

find the time to get to some long-term projects, like a sequel to *The Culture of Equity*, a book on lost-and-found stories and a novel he's been working on with a friend for years. But those projects will have to wait as he gets more familiar with the University and his new position.

Fortier is eager to tackle the administrative part of his job, but will also teach, including a module of a graduate course in the winter. The module will focus on the legal notion of equity as it pertains to theatre.

"I've incorporated law into my scholarly work," he says. "The law is its own strange thing. It works in ways the layperson doesn't quite understand. You hear all these new words, words that you realize you didn't quite know what they meant. Right away in law school, you hear about equity, which has a particular meaning in law. It's the exception to the rule, the instance in which the rules shouldn't apply. That's an interesting concept in literature because it goes with all sorts of post-structuralist notions of the exception and the anomalous. It intrigued me right away."

Fortier says his law studies taught him a type of rational orderliness and a way of proceeding through questions that have proven useful to him as an administrator. But his application of law will have to be limited to the lecture hall. Since he found his true calling as a professor 10 years ago, the lure of the law has dimmed.

"It's not so attractive," says Fortier. "I think law is fascinating, and I want to have it as part of my thinking and part of my work, but I don't need to go get called to the bar."

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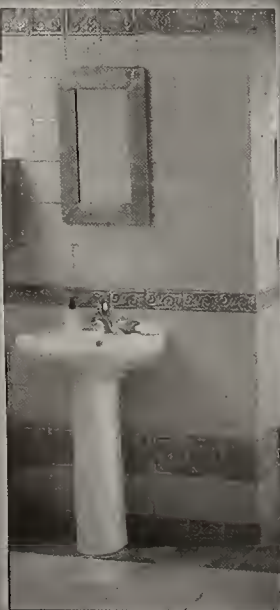
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Flu Shot Campaign Ready to Roll

First shipment of vaccines has arrived on campus

IN A LARGE CAMPUS community, the flu bug can spread quickly, but Student Health Services is trying to minimize the impact with its annual flu shot campaign sponsored by Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health. It begins Nov. 15.

"The clinics are open to everybody," says Lynda Davenport, director of Student Health Services.

In each of the last two years, some 2,000 people have taken advantage of the free flu shots on campus, says Davenport, but she wants to see an even bigger turnout this fall.

"We would love to see the numbers increase. When one person gets a vaccine, it protects a bunch of us. It's a wise, healthy thing to do for you and for the community."

The University recently received its first shipment of vaccines and will begin the clinics for the

segment of the population more at risk, such as the elderly and health-care workers.

Although Davenport strongly encourages as many people as possible to come out, she stresses that those who don't should pay particular attention to how they can potentially spread germs.

"Wash your hands and practise good cough etiquette," she says.

Campus clinics are scheduled as follows:

- Nov. 15 and 16: 5 to 7 p.m., by appointment only at Ext. 52131.
- Nov. 20 to 23: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Room 207 of the Powell Building, open to the U of G community and general public.
- Nov. 24: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Powell 207, open to the U of G community and general public.
- Nov. 27 and 28: 5 to 7 p.m., by appointment only at Ext. 52131.

Discovery May Open Door to Fighting Bacteria Better

Researchers find novel way for disease-occurring microbes to elude immune system

BY ANDREW VOWLES

A NEW FIND by an international research team that includes Guelph microbiologists could help fight deadly disease-causing bacteria and enable food-additive companies to increase their product yields at the same time.

The scientists' discovery of a novel bacterial protein complex may ultimately help in designing drugs to disable pathogens causing a range of disorders, including meningitis, blood diseases and hospital-acquired infections, says Prof. Chris Whitfield, Molecular and Cellular Biology.

The research is described in a paper published online in *Nature* this month. Whitfield co-authored the paper along with colleagues led by James Naismith of the Centre for Biomolecular Sciences at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. Collaborators in Whitfield's science complex lab at U of G were post-doctoral researchers Jutta Nesper, Anne Brunkan-LaMontagne and Brad Clarke.

The team described the first structure representing a previously unknown class of membrane proteins essential in allowing pathogens to elude host immune defences. This protein enables the bacteria to move

large, complex sugar-containing molecules called polysaccharides through the cell membrane. Once on the cell surface, these long polymer chains make a protective "coat" against the immune system.

"This protein breaks the rules as we knew them," says Whitfield. "It's effectively a new way to make a membrane channel. While we had many working models for the protein, the final structure was a real surprise. It's a beautiful example of nature's ability to find elegantly simple solutions for complex biological problems."

The discovery may give researchers a new target for antibiotics intended to prevent the polymers from passing through bacterial membranes.

"Without this protein, the polysaccharide doesn't get out," he says, and that leaves the bacteria unprotected against host defences. Alternatively, drug companies may devise new ways to keep large membrane channels fixed open — another strategy that may prove just as lethal to pathogens.

The work may also attract food-additive manufacturers who harness bacteria with a similar membrane transport process to make xanthan gum on a commercial scale. This complex polymer, made by a

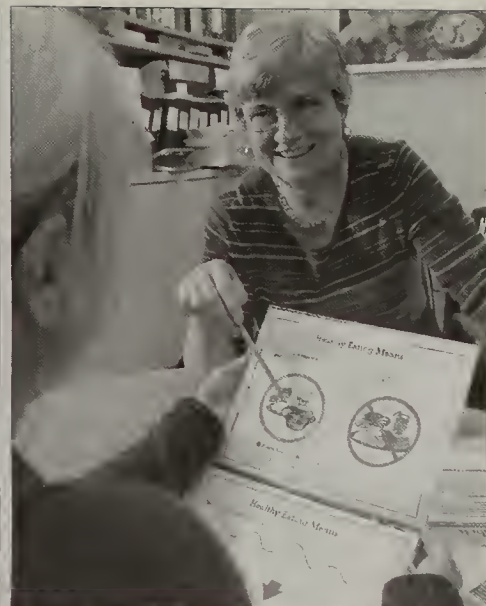
species of bacteria that infects cabbage and related plants, is worth millions of dollars for its uses, including thickening and stabilizing dairy products and salad dressings. Whitfield says these companies might use his team's work to learn how to increase yields of xanthan or its modified products.

As holder of the Canada Research Chair in Molecular Microbiology, he is interested in how bacteria selectively allow extremely large and complex polymers to pass out of the cell while keeping out potentially harmful molecules.

"This recent discovery represents a massive step forward in our understanding, but the information is still too preliminary to generate immediate interest from a pharmaceutical company," he says. "The challenge for us now is to learn how to exploit it. We hope that will come from the next few years of research."

The team used microbiology, molecular biology and X-ray crystallography techniques to learn about the protein structure. Whitfield and his collaborators plan further studies to learn more about how the protein works.

The U of G research was supported by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Canada Foundation for Innovation.



Canada's primary health-care system is changing to include dietitians on the front lines, says Prof. Paula Brauer, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition. PHOTO BY KYLE RODRIGUEZ

Dietitians to Play Central Role in New Health-Care System

Research team develops integrated health-care model

BY MEGAN NUTTALL
SPARK PROGRAM

CANADA'S PRIMARY health-care system is changing. It's still mostly based on reactive measures to treat disease, but \$800 million in federal funds has been spent to promote the transition to preventive medical care. The goal is to establish effective community-based health-care systems.

Dietitians will be a big part of these new systems, says Prof. Paula Brauer, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition. She and her colleagues have invested the past two years in developing an integrated, synergistic primary health-care model that places dietitians right in the doctor's office.

In the past, dietitians have been employed largely in hospitals, private clinics, the food-service industry, education and research. Having dietitians in medical offices will give them a more direct role in early and diagnostic health management, says Brauer.

"This will help patients navigate through the wealth of generalized health and nutrition information that's available through traditional channels such as magazines and the Internet, and help them receive specific information regarding their personal health-care issues."

This model differs from the referral-based system currently in place. Brauer believes the integrated model is especially relevant to people who have complicated health issues that feature a variety of symptoms. This is often the case in the baby-boom generation, where diabetes and other health problems related to diet

and nutrition are on the rise.

"It's all about personalizing and individualizing advice pertinent to that patient's health-care issues," she says.

The integrated model has been tested as a pilot project in family health networks in Kingston, Parry Sound and Stratford, with an overwhelmingly positive response, says Brauer.

In one survey, a doctor said the registered dietitian was "a very valuable addition to our services. Treatment for obesity and cholesterol issues is vitally important, and the patients loved having this accessibility. Given the high proportion of our population with obesity, this kind of early attention is critical to reducing future burden to the health-care system."

This is good news for Brauer, who expects great things from this kind of program in remote areas and city centres alike.

"I'm very excited about the results of this project. It provides a good basis on which to evaluate the model. Now all we need is the political will to create the services that need to be there."

Brauer and her colleagues have made conference presentations on the successes of the pilot project and published several articles in the fall issue of the *Canadian Journal of Dietetic Practice and Research*.

Collaborators involved in this work include independent consultant Bridget Davidson, Linda Dietrich of Dietitians of Canada and Guelph PhD graduate Julia Witt.

The project was funded by the Ontario Primary Health-Care Transition Fund.

Parenting Is Give and Take

Modern moms and dads are enjoying more intimate moments with their kids

BY RACHELLE COOPER

PARENTS HAVE SHED the thick disciplinary skin of 50 years ago and have begun getting fun, pleasure and companionship out of having children, a U of G study has found.

"The idea of intimacy and companionship is a neglected part of the research on parent-child relationships," says Prof. Leon Kuczynski, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, who's been studying the topic for three decades. "Parents have always been thought of as the givers. They give social support, food, guidance and a lot more. Now we're seeing a shift where parents are getting fulfillment out of the relationships with their children."

Love and intimacy are often used interchangeably, but they're not the same things, says Kuczynski.

"When we interview children who have a more formal relationship where they're brought up to obey their parents, they make it clear they love their parents, but say they wish they had more open communication with them."

Although parent-child intimacy seems to be most prevalent in North America, it has become a worldwide phenomenon, he says.

"As cultures become more modernized, the number of offspring decreases and parents say their reasons for having children are emotional rather than economical."

Kuczynski and master's student Amy Oliphant have found that parents place great value on intimate moments they have with their children, such as sharing a laugh or a moment of silliness or conversing about their daily lives.

"We're seeing a shift where parents are getting fulfillment out of the relationships with their children."

Oliphant interviewed 50 mothers and fathers of children aged seven to 11 throughout southern Ontario.

"Establishing a sense of intimacy is built on all the intimate moments that children and parents might have together," says Oliphant. "It's really about creating moments where parents and children share the same psychological space."

Even though it's been well-documented that, overall, mothers have more intimate relationships with their children than fathers do, Oliphant's study found that mothers and fathers value intimate interactions with their children equally and have similar experiences of closeness

and enjoyment during these times.

The good news for parents wishing to nurture or establish intimate moments with their children is that it doesn't take a lot of effort, resources or money, she says.

"Intimate moments can occur on a regular basis during daily routines such as waking, meals and bedtime, and also on occasions set aside for one-on-one time."

Parents don't need to buy their children presents or take them on big vacations to have a close relationship with them, she adds, although they do need to make time to be available.

"It also requires parents to let down their guard and get to the child's level."

Kuczynski admits this research has not been without controversy. "Some cultural groups say this type of parent-child relationship is inappropriate because they believe it undermines the traditional authority of a parent."

The researchers point out that parents who establish intimate moments with their children don't throw out all the other roles they have.

"They're still an authority and a teacher," says Oliphant. "This is just one more part of the relationship with their children."



An Aboriginal Space

Fourth-year fine art student Sherry Harper stands in front of a mural she painted for the South Student Residence Lounge, which has been transformed into an aboriginal space. Student Housing Services and the Aboriginal Resource Centre received a 2006 Gordon Nixon Leadership Award to convert the lounge into a space that celebrates aboriginal culture. Harper, a member of the Red Rock Indian Band, is one of three aboriginal student artists who produced murals for the lounge. Harper, Alexandra Nahwegahbo and Louise Solomon were recognized for their work at a reception held in October.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENIGALL

Student Food Donations Total \$84,500 This Fall

U of G, city of Guelph set national record in 'Trick or Eat' food collection

THIS FALL, U of G students have raised more than \$84,500 in food for local charities through Meal Exchange, a student-run national campus charity.

Some 1,200 students collected more than 30,000 pounds of food Halloween night, totalling more than \$60,000 worth of food. U of G students also donated \$22,000 from their meal plans this semester, the highest amount of any Canadian university or college.

The students' "Skip a Meal" donations will be used to buy wholesale products for 17 organizations throughout the city that support abused women, homeless teens and people who use food banks. The

"Trick or Eat" non-perishable food items collected on Halloween will go to the Guelph Food Bank. Together, U of G and the city of Guelph set a national record for the largest amount of food collected for "Trick or Eat."

"I am so proud of the results of this year's events," says Caitlin Lyon, Meal Exchange education and promotions co-ordinator. "Student volunteers and the community really came together to address the hunger issue in Guelph. Together we have made a positive, unforgettable impact on our city."

On Nov. 24, the success of the Meal Exchange programs will be celebrated in Room 424 of the Univer-

sity Centre. The Ontario Trillium Foundation will present the non-profit organization with a cheque to develop a new Meal Exchange program called "Change Makers," which will encourage alumni and young professional engagement. President Alastair Summerlee will speak at the event to recognize the valuable work being done by students at Guelph and across Ontario.

On Nov. 25, dozens of U of G student volunteers will deliver the food from the "Skip a Meal" campaign to local organizations.

Guelph students have taken part in "Skip a Meal" since 1997 and have contributed \$260,000 in food.

Masai Project Support Grows

Bracelet sales soar to help fund African AIDS clinic

BY DAVID DICENZO

RED, GOLD AND BLACK may be the official U of G colours, but the campus has had a noticeable spike in the number of people donning red and white — on their wrists.

The University's Masai Project: For Africa, for AIDS, for Hope, which involves the sale of red and white beaded bracelets to raise funds to help combat the pandemic in Africa, has been a smashing success since the initiative kicked off in September.

U of G's goal is to generate \$100,000 from fundraisers and the sale of the bracelets, which are handmade by the women of the Inina Craft Agency, a co-operative in Eshowe in KwaZulu-Natal, Africa. More than 3,500 have been sold throughout Guelph to date.

"I'm amazed at the response, but at the same time I'm not," says Claire Alexander, U of G special projects co-ordinator and a member of the Masai Project committee. "The only disappointing part is that we haven't been able to keep up with demand."

The Masai Project is part of a larger local effort started by Guelph doctor Anne-Marie Zajdlík to raise \$1 million to sustain and extend the reach of an AIDS clinic in Lesotho, Africa, where 79 people die every day of the disease and life expectancy has plummeted to 34 years of age.

Zajdlík gave an emotional speech at a dinner called "Celebrate Africa" Oct. 12 in Peter Clark Hall, a sold-out event that raised \$27,000. She also addressed the National Union of Public and General Employees at its annual convention in Ottawa recently, and since then her office has been bombarded with calls from unions across Canada wanting bracelets to sell to their members.

"Anne-Marie captured very well the human suffering that's taking place in Africa and cast a vision as to how we can take this project to the next level," says James VanderBerg

of the University's Multi-Faith Resource Team, who is also a member of the Masai committee.

Adds Alexander: "She's so inspiring. You listen to what Anne-Marie says and you feel like you can change the world."

Although the money being generated by the bracelets is crucial for the AIDS clinic, the women of the Inina Craft Agency have also benefited because they've been able to use the additional income to improve household nutrition and pay school fees for their children, says Alexander.

"The Centre for Environment, Agriculture and Development at the University of KwaZulu-Natal has put its support behind Inina and will arrange for the women to visit the clinic in Lesotho, so they can get a first-hand look at what their hard work is supporting."

Five other academic institutions throughout the province have contacted the University to join the campaign, and president Alastair Summerlee, who literally sells bracelets right off his arm, has talked to other Ontario university presidents to promote the campaign.

"Guelph is taking a real leadership role with this project, and the incredible thing is that it's simply been by word of mouth," says Alexander. "But there's a lot more to do."

The bracelets are now being sold at the U of G Bookstore, and a new shipment is expected to arrive this week.

VanderBerg says it's vital for the University to continue to find the people and the resources needed to carry out new developments within the Masai Project. Guelph students have played a key role, including the planning of numerous events for the Masai Project during AIDS Awareness Week Nov. 20 to 24, he says.

"They're already looking ahead to next semester. They filed out of that dinner on Oct. 12 knowing there was more to come."

Connecting Shakespeare to the United Way

BY MARY DICKIESON

NINE PEOPLE in Guelph who are regular recipients of services funded by the United Way will be the stars of an unusual outdoor art installation at the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre during the 2007 "Shakespeare — Made in Canada" festival.

Dawn Matheson, a Guelph-based writer and multimedia artist, went to the Action Read Community Literacy Centre to find out if Shakespeare's words would resonate with people who struggle to read even the daily newspaper. She has been both surprised and uplifted by the response of these adult learners, who

are now recording some of Shakespeare's most familiar passages for her audio installation in the Donald Forster Sculpture Park.

Action Read offers both family and adult programs and uses volunteers to work with groups of learners and provide one-on-one tutoring. Its programs operate in 12 locations around the city and include adult reading programs, homework help for children and teens, and computer training.

The adult learners who are participating in Matheson's "Tongues in Trees" project have literacy challenges due to learning disabilities and/or limited access to education because of troubled or low-income

histories. She says all the participants had heard of Shakespeare, but only two were familiar with his work.

But when she boiled down Shakespeare's most quoted passages, everyone could identify with the basic emotional expressions within them. "To be or not to be" — should I commit suicide or not? — brought nods from those who had been there themselves or knew friends who struggled with emotions similar to Hamlet's.

"One Hamlet had suffered more 'slings and arrows of outrageous fortune' than anyone I've ever met," says Matheson. Another person knew the feeling of King Henry V's uphill battle against impossible

odds, and yet another had suffered Romeo's feeling of lost love when Juliet's family refused to let him court their daughter.

Even Macbeth's despairing speech: "Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow / Creeps in this petty pace from day to day..." seemed to be written for the year in the life of one man who felt that he, too, had lost everything.

Again and again, as they studied Shakespeare's monologues, this group of adult learners would react with expressions of "been there, got through that," says Matheson.

Gradually, each person chose a speech they would like to record and began to learn Shakespeare's words

along with the books they are reading with Action Read volunteer tutors. You will hear their voices when you walk through the sculpture park during the Shakespeare festival, which runs from January to May 2007. Motion detectors situated around the permanent sculptures will start the recordings.

Matheson thanks Action Read staff Mira Clarke and Sarah Derner for their help with "Tongues in Trees" and says the process has enriched her appreciation of their work. In turn, the project has given nine Action Read clients a boost in self-confidence. As Matheson's Henry V might say: "I can do Shakespeare now, so I can do anything."

'That Scary-Looking Tattoo Guy?'

Brock Scholarship will allow OVC student to continue cattle vaccine study

BY BARRY GUNN

MATT FIRTH would be the first to admit that his graduate school career was nearly a non-starter due to a spotty undergraduate record. And if one were to judge by appearances, Firth looks more like a musician or an artist than an academic: Dead Kennedys patch on his black shirt, fashionably tousled hair and a hint of a goatee on his chin, tattooed arms, a labret (a stud piercing just below the lower lip and direct centre) and pierced ears — we're talking *pierced*, with each lobe stretched around a bamboo hoop roughly three-quarters of an inch in diameter.

But delve a little deeper and you quickly discover that if he's frowning or a bit bleary-eyed, it's because of late nights spent in the laboratory, not in a nightclub, and a closer look at the tattoos reveals a fascination with mathematics symbolized by the Platonic solids (a tetrahedron, hexahedron, octahedron, dodecahedron and icosahedron) etched on his left forearm.

"A lot of people look at me and think I must be some angry, troubled artist, when really I'm just a sleepy scientist," he says.

Luckily, his sleepless nights are the result of pursuing his passion for science, rather than juggling his studies with a part-time job to make ends meet on a graduate stipend. That's because Firth, a PhD candidate in the Department of Pathobiology, is this year's winner of the Brock Scholarship, the University's most prestigious graduate student award. Valued at up to \$120,000 (\$30,000 a year for four years), it is granted annually to one extraordinary doctoral candidate in the first year of his or her PhD program. Recipients are considered outstanding in their field of study, their research work and their ability to serve as mentors and leaders to other students in doctoral programs.

The scholarship is funded from an endowment of \$1 million donated by Bill and Anne Brock. Bill Brock is a 1958 graduate of the Ontario Agricultural College and a former chair of Guelph's Board of Governors and Board of Trustees. Firth will be recognized Nov. 20 at a University-wide graduate student awards presentation and reception.

"It's an incredible honour to have received this award, and I'm extremely grateful to the Brock family and all the people in the department who have supported me," says Firth. "The opportunities at OVC are unique. Every day I am in awe of just still being here and being able to do what I love to do."

But if he sometimes can't quite believe his good fortune, colleagues consider themselves to be the lucky ones. Inquisitive, articulate, resourceful and hard-working are but a few of the qualities ascribed to him in a letter supporting his application for the Brock award.

"Matt is without question one of the brightest graduate students I have had the pleasure to advise in the last 24 years," says Prof. Pat Shewen, who first hired Firth as a laboratory assistant in 2003. "It was quite by chance that we got together. I was lucky to find him, and he was lucky to find someone who saw something special in him."

As Firth looks ahead to what promises to be a bright future



in immunology, his gratitude and humility are grounded in the knowledge that it all could have turned out much differently.

Although he'd wanted to be a scientist since age five and found a passion for genetics at his Sarnia-area high school, by his third year of microbiology studies at U of G, he was struggling with the moral dilemmas facing modern science.

His grades suffered, and although he wasn't willing to leave school behind entirely, he cut back to a single course per semester. To make a living, he worked in downtown Guelph as a bartender and in a tattoo shop, where he pursued another passion: body piercing.

"It wasn't exactly the place I expected to end up," says Firth. "It was fun at the time, but I came to realize it wasn't very stimulating work and I missed science."

By chance, Firth's roommate happened to be Shewen's son, Spencer. When Spencer learned that his mother needed a part-time lab assistant with a background in microbiology, he recommended his friend.

"Her reaction was: 'You mean that scary-looking tattoo guy you live with?'" says Firth, only half-joking.

But it turned out to be a perfect match, says Shewen. With Firth's help, her lab made considerable progress in the quest for the bovine complement component C3d gene for use in vaccine studies aimed at protecting cattle from diseases such as pneumonia.

Firth's lab mates are also glad to have him around for a less obvious reason: his experience in body piercing makes him a deft hand with a needle, a talent that comes in handy when blood samples are required.

With the help of an understanding U of G counsellor as well as Shewen and others in the Department of Pathobiology, including research associate Doug Hodgins, Firth had found his purpose and finished his B.Sc. in 2004. His grades shot up by 20 per cent, and after taking part in the OVC Summer Leadership Program, he applied to enter graduate school — unsuccessfully. But he warned the graduate admissions office that he would keep applying until they let him in. Unbeknownst to him at the time, a number of people in the department were going to bat for him.

His second attempt was successful, and by fall 2004, he was working in Shewen's lab as an M.Sc. candidate studying neonatal innate immune systems. He completed that degree in January, two semesters ahead of the usual schedule for graduate students in the department.

Firth's master's thesis examined the ability of the C3d gene to act as an adjuvant in cattle. Adjuvants are substances that are added to enhance or increase the ability of an antigen to stimulate the immune system. (An antigen is a foreign body or toxin that triggers the production of the antibodies that fight infection.)

To date, most of the research on the C3d gene has been limited to studies using mice and rabbits and antigens unrelated to diseases that occur naturally in those species. Firth chose to study the potential of C3d to combat bovine pneumonia in calves because Shewen's lab has extensive experience working with the pathogen that causes the

disease. Along the way, he co-authored a review article, and the group became the first to isolate, clone and sequence the gene fragment coding for bovine C3d. Then a series of fusion proteins were created to contain the C3d fragments linked to the pneumonia toxin.

Firth's current work is focused on testing the potential of those proteins for use with new vaccines to provide improved protection for newborns against deadly diseases.

"Many of the cells and systems in the neonate are underdeveloped, and there's a large contribution of immune molecules from the mother that actually interfere with vaccination programs. It's of tremendous interest to me to try to sort these things out and try to develop new vaccines to protect animals from these diseases at a very young age."

Shewen couldn't be more delighted with Firth's success. And Firth is thrilled that his mentor's gamble has paid dividends.

"She took a big chance on me," he says. "It makes me happy to make her look good and to make her proud. She's a pretty rare person."

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWABE

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Valerie Poulton

Integrative Biologist Explores Burning Issue

Prescribed fires protect threatened native plants, reduce risk of accidental fires

BY RACHELLE COOPER

IT MAY SEEM ILLOGICAL to set fires to protect threatened native plants and reduce the risk of accidental fires, but Prof. Andrew MacDougall, Integrative Biology, has found it's a method that works in Vancouver Island's Garry oak ecosystem.

"We've found that prescribed burning is a very effective tool for eliminating problematic exotic plants and allowing native plants to thrive," says MacDougall, who moved to Guelph this summer from Saskatchewan, where he was a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council post-doctoral researcher at the University of Regina.

MacDougall has been setting controlled fires in the Garry oak ecosystem near Victoria for the past seven years — research that he began for his PhD at the University of British Columbia. He has focused his research, which has been published in the journal *Ecology* and featured in *Canadian Geographic*, within this ecosystem because "it's a biodiversity hot spot in Canada," he says.

From the time he started his undergraduate studies at Dalhousie University, MacDougall has always been interested in conservation biology. He did his master's through York University on habitat fragmentation in Central America. After completing that degree, he worked as a government researcher and endangered species biologist for seven years. When his wife got a job in



Following up on his efforts to protect native plants in the Garry oak ecosystem in British Columbia, Prof. Andrew MacDougall hopes to restore the tall grass prairie here on campus. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWABE

Vancouver, he looked into continuing his research in conservation biology, and the Garry oak ecosystem

seemed to be a natural fit.

The system used to be burned annually or semi-annually by First Na-

tions people for centuries until Europeans arrived in 1843, says MacDougall.

"As soon as you stop burning, you get a conversion from grassland community to a forest, and that's what has happened. This conversion to forest has resulted in habitat loss, meaning a substantial reduction in the population sizes of hundreds of species."

Of the 517 species mentioned in Canada's recently created national Species at Risk Act, 40 are from the Garry oak ecosystem.

It's a unique area because of its sub-Mediterranean climate, which means the winters are wet but never get especially cold and the summers are hot and dry, says MacDougall. "There are only five regions in the world that have that climatic signature."

The rare native plants there are being overtaken by exotic plants that were introduced to the area by the European settlers. MacDougall's test area is overrun with six-foot-tall exotic grass whose presence is associated with the virtual elimination of a number of native plant species, such as the prairie violet, balsamroot sunflower and white-top aster.

"A lot of the problems we're seeing in these systems reflect fire suppression because as soon as we burn, we've substantially reduced the exotic plants," he says.

"We've found that a large number of native plants such as the camas lily thrive with fire, so the fire is doing its job to encourage native growth by controlling the exotic plants."

Many native plant species can tolerate burns because they're inactive during the burning season, says MacDougall.

"Camas, for example, grows during the winter and spring, so by the time July comes around, it has already set seed and is therefore unaffected by fire."

He's been working on this project with the Nature Conservancy, which "has enabled me to marry theory with the application of management planning."

MacDougall has found that prescribed burning not only controls invasion by trees and exotic grasses but also eliminates accumulated plant litter such as dead grass, needles, bark, fallen trees and branches. This litter is highly combustible and causes an explosive fire if it burns. In the days when prescribed fires were a regular occurrence, they cleaned up the litter, which meant that accidental forest fires could never get really hot, he says.

"By regularly burning, you actually prevent big fires. If there's any message from this research, it's that if we do burn, we may be able to keep catastrophic fires in check."

Although MacDougall plans to continue his research on the Garry oak ecosystem during summers, he hopes to launch a similar project here in the Arboretum.

"A system that's directly analogous to the Garry oak system is Ontario's tall grass prairie, which is also very rare and was formerly burned," he says. "I'm hoping to restore the tall grass prairie right here on campus."

Food for Thought

Paris research leave allows Guelph food scientist to cook up new studies

BY ANDREW VOWLES

THAT ORANGE ON HIS DESK looks inviting enough, but Prof. Alejandro Marangoni, Food Science, would trade it in a nanosecond for some of the "stinky sheep cheese" he enjoyed during his recent 11-month research leave spent studying food microstructure in France.

At the University of Paris, Marangoni forged research collaborations, took part in three conferences and wrote about 10 papers, including the cover article for the May 2006 issue of *Crystal Growth and Design*, published by the American Chemical Society.

His Paris sojourn also yielded ideas for further structural studies of foods and soft materials that he is now pursuing with food scientists, physicists and nutritionists back in Guelph.

Holder of the Canada Research Chair in Food and Soft Materials Science, Marangoni is an expert in the crystallization of edible fats and how fat crystal networks affect foods from chocolate to butter.

He worked in France with Michel Ollivon, an expert in X-ray studies of liquid crystals, on non-isothermal nucleation of fats, the use of fats as moisture-barrier laminate films, the structure and fractal nature of fat spherulites

and the behaviour of monoglycerides in water.

Marangoni's interest in novel ways to structure oils, including how their components self-organize, led him to the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) in Paris and the ELETTRA synchrotron light source in Trieste, Italy. Using the instruments available at these institutions, including X-ray diffraction, allowed him to see nanostructures of foods and soft materials.

"That's where the action is," he says, likening his European research to the synchrotron X-ray diffraction work he conducts at the Brookhaven National Laboratory and Argonne National Laboratory with Stefan Idziak, a physicist at the University of Waterloo.

Changes revealed by those instruments at normally unseen levels affect the overall structure and behaviour of the food on your plate, he explains. Understanding what's happening inside what we eat may help producers make new kinds of foods for a variety of reasons.

One good reason, says Marangoni, is health. Food producers looking for alternatives to trans fats in their products have shifted to saturated fats to provide some of the same benefits of the former. But those alternatives may not be the best choices for health-conscious consumers either. "We need new ways to make

traditional products."

Marangoni, who worked more than a decade ago on a new spreadable butter, is now looking at organogels, made up of small molecules that self-assemble into fibres and turn liquids into gels with potential applications in spreads, shortenings and pharmaceutical creams.

Across campus, he continues to participate in the Centre for Food and Soft Materials Science on the structure and dynamics of soft materials. The centre is run by physics professor and Canada Research Chair John Dutcher, co-editor with Marangoni of a 2005 book called *Soft Materials: Structure and Functions*.

Marangoni is also interested in "cooking up" oils and fats in novel ways to provide measurable health effects for consumers. "Can we structure something to affect human physiology and health?"

Perhaps mindful of that orange left untouched on his desk, he says: "It would be nice if we all went to the market and ate fresh every day. But we rely on processed foods. If we can improve the nutritional quality even a bit, this has an effect on the health of the population."

He expects to team up again with Prof. Amanda Wright, Human Health and Nutritional Sciences, who studies how to use fats and

oils to deliver compounds in functional foods that promote health or prevent disease. Before joining the University's faculty, Wright completed a doctorate with Marangoni—himself a PhD graduate of Guelph—on structural properties and crystallization of butter.

Referring to the millions of pounds of fats consumed in spreads and shortenings worldwide every year, Marangoni says: "It's about time food scientists take responsibility for the food products they make."

The overlap of food and physics that guides his work at Guelph or at France's CNRS also occurs in the kitchen through the growing field of molecular gastronomy, the use of chemistry and physics to design and make higher-quality and more healthful foods. Molecular gastronomy will be among the topics on the table during an international symposium on complex food systems to be held next year at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst; Marangoni is the sole Canadian representative on the event's scientific organizing committee.

All of which makes food itself sound rather clinical, even for a food scientist. No wonder he's still pining for those Corsican wines and that "unpasteurized, mouldy and very stinky sheep cheese" he encountered in the mountains in Europe. "The flavour was fantastic."

Processed Foods Don't Deserve Bad Rap, Says OAC Prof

Research aims to put health back into processed foods

BY RACHELLE COOPER

MANY CANADIAN processed foods aim to improve health and should not be considered synonymous with junk food, says Prof. Milena Corredig, Food Science.

"Processed foods shouldn't have a negative connotation," says Corredig, a recently named Canada Research Chair who aims to incorporate more functional, healthier ingredients into food products.

"Omega-3 milk and heat-treated tomato juice are good examples of processed foods that are actually better for you than the non-processed version. They're also well-conserved, so you can have the sense of freshness for a longer time."

Canadian food processors are world leaders in working to make products healthier, she says.

"We process foods very well because we formulate foods with the aim of keeping them healthy."

A large part of preventive health care is diet, says Corredig. "But to eat a good diet, most people need the motivation of a variety of healthy products out there, otherwise they get bored."

Her research focuses on putting health back into processed foods. In her lab, she aims to find ways to give food the same texture with reduced fat and ways to encapsulate good fat and proteins in food.

"We've discovered that you can mix whey proteins with soy proteins to make different types of ingredients depending on how you process them, which is great for people who want high-protein drinks."

It's not as simple as mixing the two products together, says Corredig. "If you don't have the perfect formulation and the perfect process, you're not going to be able to make a good product."

During food processing, there

are a lot of wasted byproducts that could be extremely beneficial to Canadians' health, she says. The byproduct of making butter, for example, is the only source of phospholipids from milk. Phospholipids have been linked to brain development.

She and her colleagues remain one of the only research groups in the world studying butter's byproduct, called buttermilk — not fermented buttermilk but the watery substance that's separated from the butter and collected as waste during the butter-making process. Once buttermilk is processed, the nutritional properties are diminished, so the team is trying to find a way to process cream and butter that would preserve the quality of the phospholipids.

Buttermilk is currently sold cheaply for animal feed, much like the byproduct of cheese — whey — was sold as swine feed 20 years ago. Once it was discovered that whey proteins are good for building muscle in athletes, whey powders were introduced to health food stores, and now the price of whey is much higher than that of many cheese products.

Corredig believes buttermilk could be just as popular as whey for value-added beverages such as enriched milk, nutrition shakes and yogurt, as well as for baby formula.

"There have been a lot of nutritional studies looking at milk fat globule membrane for baby formula since it's so important to human health," she says.

"Dairy technology research is fun because you always start from the same thing, milk, but look at the thousands of products that come from it. If we really knew how every molecule reacted with each other, we could control the processing of dairy to the point of being masters instead of just artisans."



Prof. Richard Manderville's study of a mycotoxin that forms on wheats and oats could have an impact on the allowable levels of the substance in Canadian food sources.
PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Chemist Studies Mould Impact

Researcher looks at link between kidney cancer and toxin found in grain crops

BY RACHELLE COOPER

PROF. Richard Manderville, Chemistry, is helping to determine how a dangerous mould that forms on wheat and oats causes kidney cancer, which could have an impact on the allowable levels of the substance in Canadian food sources.

Manderville is studying a type of mycotoxin — a naturally occurring toxin produced from fungi that often attach to grain crops — called ochratoxin A, to see why it causes cancer in animals.

A recent study by Health Canada found that the toxin is present in 50 per cent of Canadian breakfast cereals and many grain products.

"Mycotoxins should be a big, hot item in Canada because ochratoxin A thrives in northern wet climates and is the most potent kidney carcinogen that's ever been tested by the National Toxicology Program in the United States," says Manderville.

The problem is, this mould is naturally occurring in grain products and is difficult to prevent, he says.

"You can't see it with the naked eye. The mycotoxins can be detected only because our analytical techniques are so good today. They've

probably always been in our cereal; we just couldn't detect them until recently."

When wheat is processed into cereal or bread, a lot of the mycotoxins are eliminated, but not enough to meet international standards. They resist high temperatures, so cooking also doesn't destroy them, he says.

"Canada produces great wheat, but if we're not being stringent enough with our allowable levels of mycotoxins, the implications could be huge."

Scientists currently don't know how ochratoxin A causes cancer, but Manderville suspects it acts as a genotoxin (something that damages DNA) and, after it's metabolized, attaches to DNA, initiating a mutation that causes cancer.

He and his research group are the first scientists in the world to assess the nature of DNA damage caused by this toxin. They have found that once ochratoxin A is oxidized, it tends to target the G-base of DNA to form an ochratoxin A DNA adduct. They are now chemically reproducing the adduct to incorporate into DNA using a DNA synthesizer in Manderville's lab in the science complex. He will structurally char-

acterize the modified DNA and, in turn, study repair of the lesion and mutagenicity.

"We're looking at how this modification alters DNA structure, such as stability of the duplex, and we're going to determine whether it's mutagenic," he says.

His team is also determining whether affected DNA gets repaired naturally and, if not, the kinds of mutations that ochratoxin A causes.

"Once we know the answers to those questions, that will provide the key for finding out how this molecule causes cancer."

Currently, the allowable levels of ochratoxin A in food for humans is governed by its toxic properties in pigs, says Manderville.

"If we establish that ochratoxin A is a genotoxin, the allowable levels of ochratoxin A in food will be decreased. This will be problematic for the food industry because it's a natural product and they don't know how to get rid of it."

He notes that scientists in Europe are working on procedures to prevent the mould from growing on crops there, and European health officials have set stringent regulations on the limits of the toxins in foods.

Genetics Research Targets Breast Cancer

Discovery may help improve treatment for killer disease

BY ANDREW VOWLES

AU OF G GRADUATE student's research on a lipid gene that helps breast cancer cells survive may help uncover better treatment options for the most common type of cancer in women.

Thwarting a gene needed to make cancerous tissue may also help breast cancer patients avoid the stressful and often harmful side effects of chemotherapy or radiation treatment, says Christa Johnson, who defended her master's thesis this fall.

Working with Prof. Marica Bakovic, Human Health and Nutri-

tional Sciences, Johnson studied the genetics of an enzyme that is critical in making phospholipids found in all cell membranes.

She was surprised to find that cancerous cells use this enzyme extremely efficiently. Her studies showed that only one-tenth of the protein was expressed in cancerous cells compared with the amount in non-cancerous cells.

She says the Guelph work with numerous cell lines may help scientists find a way to suppress the gene and prevent cancer-causing cells from replicating.

It was Bakovic who first discov-

ered and cloned the pertinent gene, which occupies a stretch of DNA most often modified in breast cancer. She also developed a knockout mouse model for this gene and showed its essential role in development and lipid metabolism.

"We knew the gene was near the tumour suppressor region," says Johnson, explaining that her own find had been unexpected. "This is the first project to lead in this direction. Our lab's focus has changed."

Says Bakovic: "By analysing the mechanisms leading to selective suppression of this gene in breast cancer cells, Christa's work will help us

better understand the regulation of this gene, which might be beneficial for novel treatment strategies in breast cancer and other types of cancer."

Recalling the first time her experiments showed dramatically reduced amounts of the pertinent protein, Johnson says: "We felt then that this was a legitimate target to study the biology of breast cancer. It was pretty neat. I couldn't believe it. It's nice to see something really concrete."

She began working with Bakovic during her undergraduate degree in molecular biology and genetics, completed in 2004. Her interest in

breast cancer research developed after her mother underwent treatment for the disease a decade ago.

An estimated 22,200 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in 2006, and 5,300 will die from the disease. One in nine Canadian women can expect to develop breast cancer in their lifetime, according to the Canadian Cancer Society.

Johnson's project attracted a Canadian Graduate Scholarship worth \$17,500 from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. She is now working as a consultant for a health-care market research company in Mississauga.

A Soft Focus on Rural Life

BY ANDREW VOWLES

THEY SAY THE CAMERA doesn't lie. But it can certainly be used to soften the truth, at least judging by the bucolic black-and-white photos that make up the Reuben R. Sallows Collection in the U of G Library archives.

Imagine Norman Rockwell with a camera in the Canadian countryside instead of paints and brushes in small-town America. That might give you a mental picture of some of the work of this Goderich-born-and-bred landscape and portrait photographer who troled the farm fields and orchards of southern Ontario in the late 1800s and early 1900s, looking for suitable candidates for his lens.

In his rustic shots — farmhands at harvest, cattle in a pasture, an elderly man having his whiskers trimmed on a front porch — it's often spring or summer and the sun is in the sky.

Not that Sallows didn't have a serious objective in mind. He was one of a number of early 20th-century camera pros on a mission: to depict southern Ontario farm country as an ideal destination for would-be immigrants needed to help develop the country.

He sold his work to commercial clients, including government departments, railways and farm periodicals. And he proved to be an adept hand at giving those clients just what they wanted. Look through the thick black binder containing more than 300 Sallows reprints, and you won't find a hint of rural poverty or abandoned homesteads — only the romantic ideal of wholesome hard work and clean country living.

Even a scene depicting a young girl covering her eyes as two men wrestle a turkey onto a chopping block has all the whimsy and artfulness of a Rockwell painting. In another sight gag, a shot of a young boy having his torn pants mended is called *Reducing the Rent*.

"This is not documentary photography but almost the opposite," said Lynn Campbell in an essay about Sallows she wrote in 1988 when she worked at the Ontario Agricultural Museum in Milton. She's now manager of development and public relations for the McLaughlin Library.

Says Lorne Bruce, head of Archival and Special Collections: "A lot is posed. It's rural life as seen through his eye. The camera often isn't catching genuine action."

So should we regard his work — and that of his contemporaries throughout the province and the country — as just so much advertising bumph? No, wrote Michelle Lambe in another essay contained with the collection called "Historical Imagining: The Photographs of Reuben Sallows."

Look at these photos as a window into 19th-century mentality, she said. Seeing how people put a romantic patina on the rural experience may help us understand something of the suspicion and even fear of the new industrial and urban



Rural photographer Reuben Sallows tugged at viewers' sentiments, as demonstrated by these photos.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF U OF G LIBRARY AND REUBEN R. SALLOWS GALLERY, GODERICH

world that was growing up around them.

Sallows' work might also remind us of our own tendency to view an earlier time through a soft focus. Any early-1900s farmer worth his apples would have immediately recognized the incongruity of a girl in her Sunday best pictured with a cream separator in an orchard, even if he did admire the shot for its picturesque qualities. But how many of us regarding the picture through 21st-century urban eyes would catch that disconnect? Or would we simply accept the picture as historical fact?

In 1964, a box of more than 150 prints stamped with Sallows' name was found in a safe at the Ontario Agricultural College when the three founding colleges merged to form the University of Guelph. How and when the photos got there was unknown, but a series of letters from early 1972 apparently clears up the mystery.

In one letter, then U of G president Bill Winegard asked Ontario's agriculture minister to share photos

housed in his department for a special display to celebrate OAC's centennial in 1974. Those photos had been bought earlier by OAC, but were given to the provincial agriculture department for safekeeping during the 1960s.

Other Sallows photos are contained in other collections, including the National Photographic Archives, the Photographic Conservancy of Canada and the historical photo collection of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

In 2004, the U of G Library helped assemble a digital gallery of his work maintained by the Huron County Library in Goderich (www.sallowsgallery.ca/index.html). Click on "Send a postcard" on the home page and you can address an e-mail adorned with one of the digital photos.

In 1938, the successful photographer whom one magazine had called "Canada's Photographic Genius" died in a car accident on his way to yet another photo shoot. Sallows was 82.

Schofield Statue Planned for Metro Toronto Zoo's New Korean Complex

Project to honour late U of G veterinary pathologist who was known to Koreans as 'Grandfather Tiger'

BY ANDREW VOWLES
AND BARRY GUNN

A RESPECTED U of G graduate and veterinary pathologist will be commemorated with a statue and memorial garden within a new Korean complex planned for the Metro Toronto Zoo.

Organizers have begun raising funds for a \$1.6-million project at the zoo whose centerpiece will be a three-metre statue of the late Francis Schofield, a longtime faculty member of the Ontario Veterinary College and a man known in his adopted homeland of Korea as "Tiger Grandfather." They hope to unveil the statue in spring 2008.

The complex will be developed in the zoo's Eurasian region and will include plants and animals native to Korea as well as cultural attractions.

A memorial committee hopes to obtain government funding from Canada and South Korea and private donations from both countries.

"Francis Schofield has a reputation in Korea similar to that of Norman Bethune in China," says Sam Kang, chair of the board of directors of the Schofield Memorial Committee. Besides the statue and garden, the group has published a book about the veterinary doctor and plans to launch a scholarship in his name at Seoul National University.

Schofield graduated from OVC in 1910 and went to Korea in 1916 as a missionary to teach bacteriology. Expelled by Japanese occupiers for his support of the Korean independence movement, he spent more than three decades as a faculty member in pathology at OVC before retiring in 1955.

He returned to South Korea, where he taught until his death in 1970. Schofield was buried in the national cemetery, the only foreigner to be interred there.

Although his fierce devotion to Korea earned Schofield the "Tiger" nickname, it was his frail yet confident touch that made a lasting impression on Marion Current, who spent almost four decades in Korea as a missionary, occupational therapist and educator, and who was a special guest of OVC at the Schofield Memorial Lecture last month.

Describing a Sunday afternoon encounter in Korea, she said Schofield — coping with the lifelong debilitating effects of polio — would often reach for support as he descended the stairs following services at the Seoul Union Church.

"I can still feel that friendly touch," said Current, who shared her reflections on Schofield before this year's lecture.

"He was a unique and unforgettable character, a bright light from Canada who went to Korea and dedicated his life to that country and its people, then asked to be buried there. He was a heroic man who should be more well-known."

Current, who spoke at Schofield's funeral, said she would never forget the solemnity of the service nor the huge crowd that attended to pay tribute.

Prof. John Prescott, chair of the Department of Pathobiology, says it's been a revelation to meet some of the Korean-Canadian community and to realize the high regard with which Schofield is held in Korea.

"The link with the zoo is also interesting because the zoo is where our D.V.Sc. students in zoological medicine train," he says.

Calvin White, CEO of the zoo, which has long-standing ties with the Seoul Grand Park Zoo, says Schofield "is viewed as a hero in Korea. If we're going to do a Korean-Canadian garden, it makes sense to have a statue of him."



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Biologist Clocks in With Towering History

Motorcycle aficionado's travels take an architectural turn as he explores and documents clock towers across southern Ontario

BY ANDREW VOWLES

THE GUELPH DWARF IS HERE. So are the Twisted Sisters of Armprior and Napanee. And let's not forget the Spirits of Galt. They're all included in a new book by U of G biologist Marc Boileau, whose wanderlust turned him into a motorcyclist on a three-year mission: to document all the clock towers that punctuate the cityscapes and townscapes of Ontario.

What began as a pastime for the amateur shutterbug and historian became a one-of-a-kind book published this year called *Towers of Time: Ontario*. The 128-page volume tells the story of about 100 clock towers that have graced federal buildings in towns and cities from one end of the province to the other.

Besides documenting timepieces on surviving and long-gone public buildings, the book records a chapter of Canadian nation building from shortly after Confederation to the eve of the Second World War, says Boileau, an instructor in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology and graduate programs administrator for the College of Biological Science.

There's even a ghost story.

That one comes from his favourite clock tower, part of the old post office building in Galt. Built in 1885, the granite and limestone building now houses an Irish pub. (A second post office building, complete with clock tower, was built in Galt in 1936.) It was only in 1914 that a clock was finally installed in the original building.

Several years later, the body of a young postal worker named Emily was found hanging in the bell tower. How she died remained a mystery. A few days later, the postmaster was also found dead in his apartment in the post office.

"Many believe their intimate relationship was soon to be exposed, and their deaths were by no means a coincidence," writes Boileau.

The book consists mostly of his black-and-white photos of existing clock towers as well as archival shots of former public buildings, mostly post offices and custom houses. An example of the latter—what Boileau calls "ghost post offices"—is the Guelph Dwarf.

Guelph's original limestone post office was built in 1876 in downtown St. George's Square. Cost-cutting efforts by Alexander Mackenzie's government led to a small building that the opposition in Ottawa called "dwarf and squat."

After Sir John A. Macdonald re-



Marc Boileau's new book includes the clock tower on Galt's old post office building. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

turned to power, the post office was remodelled in 1903 and received its clock three years later. The building was demolished in 1960. (A bank now occupies the site.)

Boileau laments the disappearance of many buildings and clock towers and the loss of many records and drawings. Sometimes records survived in Ottawa or in local municipalities. Some clocks rescued from vanished buildings have been preserved in commemorative towers called tombstones — examples can be found in Norwich, Listowel and Tillsonburg.

On his paper chase, Boileau visited municipal offices, archives and libraries and consulted with experts, including Janet Wright, an architectural historian and historical site planner with Parks Canada in Calgary.

Says Wright: "Those clock towers are really defining landmarks for small towns all across Canada. They were built at a time when federal buildings were meant to be impressive landmarks, unlike today when they look like ordinary office buildings. Certainly in small towns they were among the most prominent buildings. They are a defining characteristic of a small Canadian town;

they were an image that everyone across Canada could recognize."

Boileau stumbled upon one unlikely information source after seeing several old postcard images with pictures of clock towers. Figuring "everything's for sale on eBay," he typed "Canadian post offices" into the website and turned up numerous references to track down.

During the past three years, he has travelled to every town with a clock tower — past or present — in southern Ontario. He's covered the

map from the town of Essex near Windsor to Alexandria east of Ottawa. Northward he went as far as Kenora and Sault Ste. Marie.

The project actually grew out of his main pastime — tooling around the countryside and small-town Ontario aboard his motorcycle. That's no incidental hobby itself.

"I'm a wanderer—I love motorcycles," he says, glancing at a photo capturing him astride his Yamaha Virago R1. "I love to just get on it and go."

That's one of more than 10 vintage bikes owned by the longtime rider and his wife, Liz. Having attended a course on motorcycle racing last summer, Boileau, 54, plans to take up the sport next year.

On the road, he'd always snapped the passing scenery. Three years ago, he realized he'd collected a number of prints of clock towers.

"I hadn't really been interested in architecture, but the nice thing about buildings is that they don't run away."

An avid amateur historian — he belongs to the National Historical Society — he learned that no one had written extensively about these "rural skyscrapers."

"I decided there might be a book in there. It became a mission to find them all, including ones that were gone."

Starting in the 1870s with the Parliament buildings and ending with a number of post offices built during the 1930s, Boileau's book explains how architectural styles and mandates changed as a succession of chief architects and politicians passed through Ottawa. Each page includes one or more photos accompanied by a paragraph about the historical highlights and notable features of the tower, the building or the particular timepiece.

Along the way, he's become

something of an expert in everything from architecture to horology. It turned out that three clockmakers supplied most of the tower clocks. One company — Smith and Sons Midland — still operates in Derby, England. He wrote to the current owner, a descendant of the founder, and received more information than he'd ever expected.

"It just made my heart stop," says Boileau. "They photocopied sales ledgers with an entry for every single clock they sent between 1911 and 1929 to Canadian Public Works." That list included some clocks he hadn't known about.

Having used about half of his collected photos, he is pondering another book for the rest. Among his backlog are clock towers on municipal buildings, stores, churches and schools, including the timepiece on Johnston Hall.

Last month, Boileau took his digital Kodak on a week-long trip to Nova Scotia, thinking he might broaden his geographic range.

A Kitchener native, Boileau studied biology at the University of Windsor, where he completed a PhD under Prof. Paul Hebert, Integrative Biology.

Boileau now co-ordinates the research project courses in molecular biology and genetics. Earlier he developed a software package called DNA Detective used to teach genetics and DNA "fingerprinting" to high school students.

Looking to explain his time travels, he shrugs. "That's the biologist in me. Biologists are collectors really."

Towers of Time is published by Looking Back Press, an imprint of Vanwell Publishing in St. Catharines. It's available at the U of G Bookstore, Chapters, Indigo and Coles. Boileau will sign copies of his book at the Guelph Chapters Nov. 18 from 1 to 4 p.m.

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CSA Bike Centre Proves a Hit With Campus Cyclists

Shop helps riders learn their way around their wheels

BY DAVID DICENZO

MONEY IS ALWAYS A CONCERN for students, so when Sam Dickson needed some potentially pricey work done on his mountain bike, the third-year philosophy major recalled an e-mail he'd received at the beginning of the semester from the Central Student Association (CSA) about the free service offered at its Bike Centre. Dickson had little experience fixing bikes, but at the centre, no experience is necessary — just a willingness to learn.

"I've had problems with resistance and a lot of drag," he says, while cleaning his bike during a recent visit to the shop. "We cleaned the chain, and I actually had one of the gears snap. The Bike Centre staff showed me how it worked, and I was able to fix it myself."

At a commercial bike shop, repairs like this can cost up to \$40 an hour, making the Bike Centre a popular destination. It has operated in a couple of locations since it started up three years ago, but now has a permanent space in the basement of Biology House on Gordon Street near South Ring Road.

With an ever-expanding number of bike riders at U of G, the CSA recognized the need for a repair centre and applied for a Gordon Nixon Leadership Award to start up the service, says Bayden Pritchard, the centre's co-ordinator for the past two years.

"It became clear that there's a huge population of bikers on campus. Look at the bike racks on any given warm day, and you'll see it's harder to park your bike than your car around here. The Bike Centre was an obvious step."

It's been a big hit with cyclists, drawing about 30 people a day to work on their wheels during the main riding months, he says. "Oftentimes there will be a lineup."

The repair shop has four stands and a wide selection of bike-specific tools, fluids and supplies. Pritchard says most of the work done is general maintenance such as fixing flats, cleaning, lubing chains and repairing gears and brakes.

A third-year theoretical physics major from "bike-mad Ottawa," he says the work is pretty simple to do, and even those with zero repair experience catch on quickly.

"Unless you're getting into the

real complicated components, the general maintenance to keep a bike running is not hard. This is the place to learn that. You can come down and ask questions, read our reference books and just poke around. It's a learning-oriented place — that's our philosophy. We try to demonstrate as much as we can as opposed to taking it behind a curtain and fixing it."

Although many users come in with little or no experience, some do know their way around the shop and drop in just to use the tools. Either way, they leave with more knowledge and a safer bike, he says.

Working with Pritchard at the centre are a volunteer co-ordinator and five volunteers. In addition to its general hours of operation from Monday to Thursday, the centre hosts a couple of workshops on general maintenance each month, with more specialized topics planned down the road.

Although use of the centre peaks during warmer weather, it does stay open year-round, accommodating the many hard-core riders who refuse to shy away from biking in the snow. Winter maintenance is actually an important component of keeping bikes running well, says Pritchard.

"Just like with a car, you have to take care of a bike in the winter to make it roadworthy. Clean it off, lube it up — that goes a long way in the winter. A lot of people don't know that. Neglect is a big cause of damage."

He sees the centre as more than just a place to tune a bike. An avid rider — the blue and red FSR mountain bike he uses for racing hangs on one of the shop walls — he stopped into the centre a couple of years ago and became a big fan. Working on bikes is a release from studying physics, says Pritchard, and he enjoys seeing the sense of accomplishment visitors to the centre feel as they pick up useful new skills.

Plus it doesn't cost a dime. "Some people don't believe me when I say it's free," he laughs. "You can save hundreds of dollars here on labour. The bike shops generally support us because they make most of their profits from parts and equipment sales. We don't sell anything — we just fix stuff."

For information about Bike Centre hours and events, visit www.uoguelph.ca/~bike.

AMY RIDLEY

Assistant manager of conferences in Hospitality Services, joined the staff of U of G in 2000

When it comes to cheerleading, Amy Ridley is a shark.

For the past three years, Ridley has been a coach for the Cheer Sport Sharks (www.cheersportsharks.com), a nationally acclaimed club based in Cambridge. She currently coaches the Junior Advanced Silvertip Sharks, a team of girls in grades 6 to 8, and the Grey Reef Sharks, an open-division team designed for athletes who have aged out of high school programs. Both teams are currently national champs in their divisions.

Ridley, who's been coaching cheerleading for 14 years, says she especially enjoys working with the younger kids.

"They're at an age where they're really impressionable, and it's great to see their development throughout the year. I grew up with it, and I wanted to find a way to carry that through. The growth of the sport is huge, and it's exciting to be part of it."

She notes that the club opened with 40 members in 2003 and now has close to 350.

Ridley coaches about 10 hours a week and spends many weekends travelling to competitions with her teams. Peak competition season is February to April, she says. She competed with her junior team Nov. 5 in Buffalo and is headed to competitions in Brampton, Mississauga and Atlantic City in December. Her open-division team hopes to retain its title at the national championships Dec. 2 at Mississauga's Hershey Centre.

In addition, Ridley recently launched Fresh Choreography, a business providing choreography for cheerleading and competitive dance programs.



Amy Ridley

herself as well, taking three dance classes a week at the Athletics Centre.

Hart is also crafty and is a skilled sewer. She's made a number of quilts and also makes pillows for friends and family. Each pillow takes four to six hours to create, and last Christmas she made personalized pillows for each of her housemates.

More recently, her sewing talents were in demand by friends in need of Halloween costumes. "I made two complete costumes — Captain Planet and a sassy ladybug — and helped out some other friends with smaller parts of their outfits," she says.

Each semester Hart makes time to return home to Mississauga to visit with her parents and to volunteer in her mother's Grade 1 classroom. She enjoys working with children and plans to become a teacher herself. With the deadline to apply for teachers' college coming up in December, "November is a very busy month," she says.

PAUL SALMON

Faculty member in the School of English and Theatre Studies since 2004, first joined U of G as a staff member in 1986

Prof. Paul Salmon, a film expert, doesn't always approach movies with the critical eye of an academic. Watching movies with his wife, Helen, U of G's associate chief librarian, and their son, Peter, 12, is something he enjoys doing, and he welcomes their selections.

"I loved *Wedding Crashers*," says Salmon, who also recently saw *V for Vendetta*.

He also enjoys getting in the van with his family and taking one of their spontaneous day trips around the region. He particularly enjoys visiting Stratford and London and crossing the border to go to Ann Arbor, Mich.

"I discovered Ann Arbor decades ago, and I keep getting drawn back. It's a university town that has tens of thousands of people when school is in. It's a fantastic place for restaurants and bookshops and is home to the headquarters of the Borders chain of bookstores — the flagship store there is truly amazing. It's a very interesting place, and trips there are always an occasion for excitement."

Bookstores are a big draw for Salmon. "When it's me on my own, I'm happiest in a bookstore."

Walking Queenie, their five-year-old Cavalier King Charles spaniel, also ranks highly.

"On the weekends, Queenie and I have time to go for a good stretch. I like taking her on the paths and trails near the periphery of town. One of the neat things about Guelph is how quickly you leave the city limits and are into really nice countryside."



Paul Salmon

LAURA HART

Fourth-year student in geography

Whether it's dancing, sewing, scrapbooking or volunteering in the classroom, Laura Hart uses her spare time creatively.

After moving to Guelph in 2003, Hart, who's been a dancer since childhood and an instructor for the past eight years, approached the City of Guelph with ideas for some new dance class offerings. She currently teaches three classes on Saturdays through the city's parks and recreation program, offering jazz, tap and ballet for children aged three to 13. She continues to train



Laura Hart

Four Weeks Left!

WITH FOUR WEEKS left in the annual United Way campaign, U of G employees, retirees and students have contributed \$301,115.

"We have almost reached 82 per cent of our goal," says campaign co-chair Fred Ramprashad, retired associate dean of the B.Sc. program. "We're confident we will reach our \$370,000 goal, but we need a commitment from those who are still considering their donation. There are 80 community programs and



agencies counting on us to help close the gap between current needs and the amount actually raised in recent years."

U of G runs the largest corporate campaign in the area and has contributed as much as 20 per cent of the total raised in Guelph and Wellington County, adds co-chair Irene Thompson, associate director of residence life.

"Our support is vital to the success of the overall fundraising effort in our area," she says.

Regular updates and upcoming fundraising events can be found on the United Way's campus website at www.uoguelph.ca/unitedway.

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NASA Calls on 'Dust Hunters' to Look for Particles From Outer Space

OAC prof joins the search for stardust

BY ANDREW VOWLES

VIEWED ON Prof. Jack Trevors' computer monitor, the sample doesn't look like much — just a black dot punctuating the end of a short tunnel. But as he clicks the mouse to adjust the focus on his "virtual microscope," the environmental biology professor says you never know.

That image — Sample 9982449V1, currently listed as "indeterminate" by NASA — may prove to be the first-ever identified grain of interstellar dust from beyond the solar system snagged on a kind of high-tech flypaper.

Samples like this one flagged by Trevors and other volunteer "dust hunters" in a worldwide space science project may eventually tell us more about what distant stars are made of and whether our solar system is one-of-a-kind.

"You get to help discover the first particles from outer space," says Trevors, who learned of the Stardust@home project while visiting NASA's website last spring.

By then, it had been several months since a comet-chasing spacecraft had passed near the Earth and unloaded a scientific cargo collected on its seven-year, three-billion-kilometre journey. The Stardust vessel's tennis racket-shaped collector made of aerogel plates was designed to scoop up floating dust particles carried into our solar system, as well as particles from the tail of comet Wild 2.

Last January, two years after that encounter with the comet, the sample return capsule landed safely in the Utah desert. Scientists have been working to extract the interstellar particles and share them with researchers worldwide. By comparing those dust particles with those in our solar system, they hope to help determine whether other "suns" exist or whether our home star is unique.

The catch: Scientists think Stardust brought back only about 50 interstellar particles, compared with the one million-plus snagged from the comet. Finding the former — each only a millionth of a metre in size — is a needle-in-a-haystack task that needs more eyes than NASA has and more intuitive smarts than pos-

sessed by any supercomputer.

So since last spring, the agency has enlisted thousands of volunteers to help hunt for the particles in Stardust "focus movies" available on their computers. (In all, about 1.6 million movies cover all 1,000 square centimetres of the collector). Each "focus movie" contains 40 images taken at different focal depths in the same location, creating a movie effect when you click to zoom in and out on the screen.

Volunteers register online, where they also undergo basic dust-spotter training and receive the movies to pore through during their spare time. Discovering an interstellar dust particle will snag a volunteer billing as a co-author on any scientific paper announcing the find — and the discoverer gets to name the particle.

Trevors logs in once or twice a week, an hour or two at a time. By late September, he'd reviewed more than 4,000 images. So far, he's spotted only that one candidate sample, to be checked by other project volunteers and ultimately by the NASA team.

It's hardly the stuff of the Academy Awards. But Trevors says Stardust@home volunteers need to exercise a number of skills — curiosity, imagination, patience, concentration — that are basic attributes for any half-decent scientist. That's what led him to explain the project to students in his undergraduate courses this semester.

"Here is an opportunity to actually participate in an international project, and you don't have to be a fully trained scientist," says Trevors, a self-avowed sci-fi fan. "Good observational skills are what scientists need and what we need as humans. If someone had mentioned this to me when I was an undergraduate, I'd have been on the site the same day."

Stardust@home is run by the California-based Planetary Society, co-founded by late scientist and writer Carl Sagan. The organization also sponsors SETI@home (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence), a project that harnesses PCs around the world to search through vast amounts of data for possible radio signals from space.



Coming to a Theatre Near You

Drama students, from left, Daniel Eichenberger, Nigel Gough and Julia Malott enact a scene from the School of English and Theatre Studies' fall production, *Private Secretary*. Written and directed by Prof. Sky Gilbert, the musical comedy features sets and costumes by Prof. Jerrard Smith. The show runs Nov. 14 to 18 at 8 p.m. at the George Luscombe Theatre, with a Saturday matinee at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$7 and \$9 and are available at the door or in advance in Room 102 of Massey Hall.

PHOTO BY JERRARD SMITH

**The next issue of *At Guelph* appears Nov. 22.
Copy deadline is Nov. 14.**



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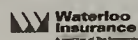
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MacLean's Ranks Guelph No. 1

Continued from page 1

This year, a number of Canadian universities declined to voluntarily participate in the *Maclean's* survey and did not submit self-reported information. For those universities, *Maclean's* obtained the data used in the survey through other means, including the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. In the comprehensive category, only one university in the top five did not submit information.

Maclean's defines comprehensive universities as those with a significant amount of research activity and a wide range of programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels. To determine the rankings, the magazine uses 23 indicators to measure overall quality within six general themes: student body, classes, faculty, finances, library and reputation.

The magazine's reputational survey is based on comments solicited from 11,430 people across the country, including CEOs of major Canadian corporations, high school counsellors and academic administrators.

Summerlee adds that the *Maclean's* ranking, University Report Card and other attitudinal surveys and rankings of Canadian universities are just some of the resources future students can use in deciding which institution best fits their needs.

"Achieving this level of success takes an incredible amount of time and effort," he says. "I want to once again thank all of our faculty, students, staff and alumni for their caring and commitment, which is what sets the University of Guelph apart from others."

CIDA Funds Recognize Global Commitment

Continued from page 1

income security for resource-poor farmers in the target areas," he says.

Gordon and Thevathasan's project will improve income generation and food security, strengthen Ghana's vision of becoming West Africa's centre of excellence in agroforestry, train men and women as agroforestry technologists, and help develop national natural resource management policies. They will work closely with private and public institutions to expand and promote agroforestry practices and to hire and train community members, technicians and faculty in agroforestry research and technologies.

"We are very pleased that CIDA has recognized Guelph's capacity in agroforestry research and development and are thrilled to be working on these serious problems in Ghana, a country the University has interacted with for more than 30 years,"

says Gordon.

Retired rural extension studies professor Jana Janakiram is heading the Sri Lanka project, which aims to help reconstruct the shattered lives of communities affected by the tsunami in an environmentally friendly and sustainable way. Emphasis will be placed on empowering women through skills training, entrepreneurship training and alternative livelihood training. It will also develop community-based early warning and emergency response plans for natural disasters.

"I am happy this project was funded because it addresses the needs of the tsunami-affected people and villages in specific areas of Sri Lanka," says Janakiram. "I was born in Sri Lanka and am now able to give back to the recovery process of the country through the University of Guelph and CIDA."

Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken on campus, you will have your name entered in a draw to be held at the end of the semester for a \$50 gift certificate donated by the U of G Bookstore. Anyone who submits the right answer by Nov. 10 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca or call Ext. 56039. The following people correctly reported that the Oct. 25 photo was taken on the top floor of the Food Science Building: John Van Manen, Wayne Aitken, Miguel Mazorra-Manzano, Gillian Maurice, Massimo Marcone, Jie Li, Nicolas Terrade and Stéphanie Marty.

PHOTO BY AISLINN SHOVELLER

Rural Development Centre Opens

Continued from page 1

while also providing the community with space for local events."

Ridgetown campus director Gary Ablett adds: "We are enormously grateful to the many partners who have contributed to this project. With our increasing student numbers and expanding slate of academic programs, the new centre will provide much-needed space."

Ridgetown has about 500 students and last spring saw its largest

graduating class ever. The campus offers diploma programs in agriculture, environmental management (introduced in 2003), horticulture and veterinary technology, as well as certificate training in veterinary medical office administration and landscape management.

A new bachelor of bioresource management degree program, which teaches the science and business of environmental management, started

in 2006. For this innovative Ontario Agricultural College degree program, students spend two years at Ridgetown, followed by two years at the Guelph campus.

"This new centre will help strengthen Ridgetown's role as a leader in agriculture and rural communities and its commitment to excellence in agricultural education," says Prof. Mary Buhr, acting dean of OAC.

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air and roof, close to schools, shopping, campus and bus route, view details at www.PropertyGuys.com/ ID#116303, 519-546-1636.

Complete 23-volume set of *Canada and Its Provinces* archive edition, published in Toronto in 1914, with numerous fold-out maps and photogravures, 519-763-8481 or tmaurice@golden.net.

Living room sofa; vertical blind for sliding doors; two roller blinds: 54 inches wide and 48 inches wide, both with pull chain; dining room set with extension and four cushioned chairs, Mary, 519-822-0786.

FOUND

Woman's watch in parking lot by the rinks, call to identify, Ext. 54347.

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Black and brown bead necklace in front of University Centre doors Nov. 2, haggarty@registrar.uoguelph.ca.

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now, \$1,400 a month plus utilities, 519-824-9140.

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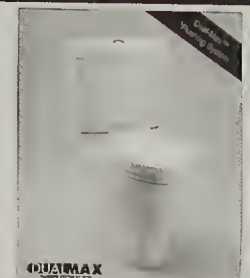
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EVENTS

ARBORETUM

Theatre in the Trees presents *There's a Burglar in My Bed* by Michael Parker weekends until Dec. 16. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.; showtime is 8 p.m. Cost is \$59. To order tickets, call Ext. 54110.

The Dufflebag Theatre presents *Robin Hood* Nov. 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the Arboretum Centre. Tickets are \$5.

ART CENTRE

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre's annual "Beyond the Frame" fundraiser is Nov. 18 at 7 p.m. A reception begins at 5:30 p.m. For information about tickets and bidding, call 519-837-0010.

The art centre's brown bag lunch series presents Prof. Gerta Moray, Fine Art and Music, discussing her book *Unsettling Encounters: First Nations Imagery in the Art of Emily Carr* Nov. 21 at noon.

CONCERTS

The School of Fine Art and Music's Thursdays at Noon concert series continues Nov. 9 with the Mirobolus Piano Trio, Nov. 16 with the U of G Concert Winds, conducted by John Goddard, and Nov. 23 with Studio Soloists' Day. Concerts are in MacKinnon 107. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

The U of G Concert Winds, led by John Goddard, will give a free concert Nov. 22 at 6 p.m. in the UC courtyard.

LECTURES

OAC's public lecture series continues Nov. 14 with the Stewart Lane Public Policy Lecture featuring Nicholas Kalaitzandonakes of the University of Missouri-Columbia discussing "GMOs, Product Labels and Consumer Behaviour: Sentiments and Acts" at 5:30 p.m. in OVC 1714. On Nov. 22, Conor Delahunty of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization in Australia gives the Alexander Pearson Leadership in Food Science Lecture at 5:45 p.m. in OVC 1714. His topic is "Sensory Properties of Foods: How Are These Important in the Formation of Children's Dietary Habits and Then Later in Life in Healthy Eating Among the Older Population?"

NOTICES

Senate is calling for nominations from students, staff, faculty and alumni for the 2007 Lincoln Alexander Medal of Distinguished Service. The award honours an individual who has played a pivotal role in the functioning of the institution and who has influenced the quality of academic life at the University. Active members of faculty, staff and

students are not eligible. The nomination deadline is Dec. 31. For more information, call Ext. 56760 or 56758 or visit the website www.uoguelph.ca/secretariat/senate/awards.shtml.

The Developing Countries Farm Radio Network invites members of the University community to meet Data Phido, program director for Nigeria's African Radio Drama Association and this year's winner of the George Atkins Communications Award, Nov. 17 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Landscape Architecture Building lobby. If you wish to attend, RSVP by Nov. 13 to brenda@farmradio.org.

The Canadian Hard of Hearing Association offers two \$1,000 scholarships each year to post-secondary students who are hard of hearing, deafened or oral deaf. The deadline for submissions is Jan. 31. For more information, visit <http://chha.ca/chha/scholarships-index.php>, call 1-800-263-8068 or send e-mail to scholarship@chha.ca.

The OAC Class of 2008 is sponsoring "Tractor Tug for Tots" Nov. 28 to raise money for Sunshine Dreams for Kids, an organization that fulfils dreams of children living with severe physical disabilities or life-threatening illnesses. The event will feature teams of eight working together to pull a tractor. To compete, teams are asked to raise a minimum of \$200 in pledges. To register, send e-mail to tugfortots@08mavericks.com.

The Stress Management and High Performance Clinic is running a four-session examSMART program beginning Nov. 21 at 5:30 p.m. in McLaughlin 359. For information about fees and registration, visit www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers or leave a message at Ext. 52662. You can also register at the McLaughlin Library Learning Commons.

U of G Peace Week activities continue Nov. 8 with a Hate Crimes Vigil at 7:30 p.m. at the Grad Lounge in the University Centre and Nov. 9 with talks by anti-war activist John Dear at noon in Peter Clark Hall and Holocaust survivor Max Eisen at 7 p.m. in Crop Science 116/117. On Nov. 10, former Iraq hostage Jim Loney speaks at noon in Peter Clark Hall, and a Peace Fair runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the UC courtyard. For complete details, visit www.uoguelph.ca/~peace.

Fair November, U of G's annual exhibition and sale of fine Canadian crafts, runs Nov. 16 to 19 in the University Centre. Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

The Shastri Institute is offering funding for research in India studies and Indo-Canadian partnership development. For details, visit

www.sici.org/2004shastri/english/programmes.htm.

The Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG) — Guelph is celebrating its 30th anniversary Nov. 18. An alumni dinner begins at 5 p.m. at Dublin Street United Church. At 7:30 p.m., renowned Ojibwa writer and activist Winona LaDuke from the White Earth Reservation in Minnesota will give a keynote address on "Resistance is Survival: Creating a Sustainable and Hopeful Future" in War Memorial Hall. Her talk will be followed by a party organized by the Aboriginal Resource Centre. To reserve tickets for the dinner or LaDuke's talk, call 519-824-2091 or send e-mail to opirg@uoguelph.ca.

SEMINARS

The Centre for Food and Soft Materials Science seminar series presents Giuseppe Melacini of McMaster University discussing "A Model for Agonism and Antagonism in an Ancient and Ubiquitous cAMP-Binding Domain" Nov. 9 at 2:30 p.m. in Room 3317 of the science complex.

The Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology's graduate student seminar series continues Nov. 10 with Chris Snowden presenting "An Investigation Into Killer Yeasts and Their Potential Applications." "Microbial Evolution and Species Concept" is the topic of Ichiro Inamoto Nov. 17. The seminars begin at 12:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 115.

Next up in the Department of Human Health and Nutritional Sciences seminar series Nov. 13 is Thomas Hawke of York University discussing "Have We Been Studying Diabetes or the Diabetic Model? Insight Into the Streptozotocin-Induced Diabetic Model." On Nov. 20, Katherine Cianflone of Laval University looks at "Regulation of Fat Storage in Adipose Tissue: Role of ASP and Receptor C52L." The seminars are at 1:30 p.m. in Food Science 241.

"Non-Invasive Optical Biopsy of Biological Tissue With Ultra-High-Resolution Optical Coherence Tomography" is the topic of Kostadinka Bizheva of the University of Waterloo Nov. 14 in the Department of Physics seminar series. On Nov. 21, James Taylor of the University of Waterloo considers "The Dark Side of Our Own Backyard." The seminars begin at 4 p.m. in Room 1511 of the science complex.

The Department of Pathobiology seminar series presents Andrew Thompson of the Centre for Biomolecular Control of Disease and the School of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences in Australia Nov. 24 at 2 p.m. in Pathobiology

2106. His topic is "Food and Water-Borne Parasite Zoonoses — Some Emerging Issues."

TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services (TSS) is offering two new workshop streams this month to help instructors as they prepare WebCT courses for the winter semester. For those who are comfortable working in WebCT but have specific questions, a self-guided session will be offered Nov. 15. For those who prefer a more methodical approach to working with WebCT or for those who are unfamiliar with WebCT 6, a guided session runs Nov. 17. These workshops will be repeated later in the semester. TSS wraps up its Photoshop series Nov. 21 with a session on text and its fall luncheon series for new faculty Nov. 20 with a discussion of effective course outlines. A social for new faculty will be held Nov. 21. For more details or to register for workshops, visit www.tss.uoguelph.ca. If you have questions, call Mary Nairn at Ext. 53571.

THEATRE

U of G's drama program presents *Suzie Goo: Private Secretary*, a musical comedy written and directed by Prof. Sky Gilbert, Nov. 14 to 18 at 8 p.m. at the George Luscombe Theatre. A Saturday matinee begins at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$7 and \$9 and are available at the door or in advance in Massey 102.

THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Jeffrey Brown, Integrative Biology, is Nov. 10 at 9 a.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "Management of Rattlesnake-Human Interaction: The Effects of Short-Distance Translocation on *Crotalus o. oreganus*." The adviser is Prof. Ron Brooks.

The final examination of Bishnu Saha, a PhD candidate in the Department of Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics, is Nov. 15 at 10 a.m. in MacLachlan 319. The thesis is "Crop Biotechnology, Structure of Primary Production and Socioeconomic Changes in Rural Communities." The adviser is Prof. Rakhal Sarker.

The final examination of PhD candidate Bryan Vamos, Mathematics and Statistics, is Nov. 16 at 2 p.m. in Room 1511 of the science complex. The thesis is "Simplified Poker and the Evolutionarily Stable Strategy." The advisers are Profs. Gord Hines and Chris Bauch.

The final examination of Kuangji Wei, a PhD candidate in the School of Engineering, is Nov. 17 at 1 p.m. in Thornbrough 1360. The thesis is "Using Ozone as a Disinfectant for Food-Processing Water Treatment." The adviser is Prof. Hongde Zhou.

The final examination of PhD candidate Mary Ann Bocock, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, is Nov. 21 at 9 a.m. in Macdonald Stewart 331. The thesis is "The Development of the Senior Malnutrition Risk Screening Tool for Home Care." The adviser is Prof. Heather Keller.

The final examination of Xiaoyan (Anna) Xu, a PhD candidate in the School of Engineering, is Nov. 27 at 9:30 a.m. in Thornbrough 1360. The thesis is "Non-Rigid Multimodal Medical Image Registration — A Fast Fluid Algorithm With Implementations." The adviser is Prof. Bob Dony.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Canadian Federation of University Women clubs of Guelph, Cambridge and Kitchener-Waterloo will host a dinner Dec. 6, the national day of remembrance and action on violence against women. It begins at 6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Cambridge. For ticket information, send e-mail to cfwuguelph@yahoo.ca or december6th@cfwkw.org.

The Guelph Chamber Choir conducted by Gerald Neufeld presents "War, Peace and Justice... Let Me Forget" Nov. 11 at 8 p.m. at the River Run Centre. The choir will perform Mozart's *Requiem* accompanied by the Musica Viva Orchestra on period instruments. For tickets, call 519-763-3000.

The Guelph Concert Band presents "Jubilant and Joy," an evening of festive music for winds, percussion and choir, Nov. 25 at 7:30 p.m. at St. George's Anglican Church, 99 Woolwich St. The program will feature works by Shostakovich, Reed, Bach and Gabrieli. Tickets are available at the door or from the River Run Centre at 519-763-3000.

Guelph Museums hosts a family celldh Nov. 26 from 2 to 5 p.m. at Norfolk Street United Church. On Nov. 30, Guelph Civic Museum holds a chocolate-tasting fundraiser at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at the museum.

Tickets are now on sale for the Edward Johnson Music Foundation's 12th annual Guelph Wine Gala and Auction to be held Feb. 3. The theme of the event is "Eat, Drink and Be Merry" in celebration of the "Shakespeare — Made in Canada" festival slated to start in January. For ticket information, call the River Run Centre box office at 519-763-3000 or visit www.riverrun.ca.

The Elora Festival Singers present "Canadian Choral Tapestry," a soup concert, Nov. 19 at St. John's Church in Elora. Lunch is at 1:30 p.m., followed by discussion at 2:30 p.m. and the concert at 3 p.m. For ticket information, call 519-846-0331 or visit www.elorafestival.com.

INSIDE: IT DOES A BODY GOOD • RAIN, RAIN, DON'T GO AWAY • CPES TEAM HAS GOOD CHEMISTRY



A Fair to Remember

U of G's 32nd annual Fair November drew thousands of people to campus to see and buy the works of dozens of artists and artisans. Here, six-year-old Taya Kendall checks out creations by Hanscomb Glass of Elora.

Case Appointed to Ontario Human Rights Commission

Director of human rights and equity brings experience, passion to new post

PATRICK CASE, director of human rights and equity, has been appointed commissioner to the Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC). He will remain at the University while he serves on the commission.

"My head's spinning with delight," says Case. "This is a time of massive and dramatic change for human rights processes in Ontario, and being in on the ground floor is

hugely exciting."

Case was one of seven new commissioners chosen to help the provincial government strengthen its role in promoting human rights.

"Our new commissioners have the qualifications we need to help build a stronger human rights system that deals effectively with discrimination at both the individual and systemic level, acts in the public interest and promotes respect for

human rights," says Barbara Hall, chief commissioner of the OHRC.

President Alastair Summerlee says Case has helped U of G become a leader in human rights.

"I'm confident that the Ontario Human Rights Commission will greatly benefit from his experience and passion for advancing human rights and equity issues."

Case, who joined U of G in 1999, *See CASE on page 14*

BMO Funds Grad Scholarship

M.Sc. statistics student is first to benefit from endowment fund

UOF G'S COMMITMENT to increasing scholarship support for graduate students has received a major boost, courtesy of a \$500,000 gift from the Bank of Montreal (BMO) Financial Group.

The gift was announced at the University-wide graduate student awards presentation Nov. 20. Close to 100 people attended the event, including graduate students who were recognized for their academic

achievements and scholastic goals. Award donors, including individuals, families, corporations and organizations, also attended and were thanked for investing in the students' future.

The BMO gift will be used to establish an endowment fund that will eventually support five annual graduate scholarships, valued at \$15,000 each. They will be distributed as part of the Ontario Graduate Scholar-

ships (OGS) and Ontario Graduate Scholarships in Science and Technology (OGSST) programs.

"Through its generous support, BMO is making a lifelong investment in the education of skilful and creative graduates who will become the future leaders of this country," says president Alastair Summerlee.

BMO has been making donations since its founding in 1817. Its philan-

See BMO on page 14

Lincoln Alexander Memoir Recounts a Remarkable Life

University community invited to Nov. 29 celebration

BY LORI BONA HUNT

CHANCELLOR Lincoln Alexander has added to his lifetime list of extraordinary achievements by becoming an author two months shy of his 85th birthday. The former Ontario lieutenant-governor's memoir, *Go to School, You're a Little Black Boy*, was published this month by Dundurn Press.

"It's a hell of a book, which I never thought it would be," says Alexander, who's been U of G's chancellor since 1991.

All members of the University and Guelph communities are invited to help him celebrate the publication of his new book Nov. 29 from 4 to 6 p.m. in Peter Clark Hall. Book launches were also held in Toronto and Hamilton earlier this month.

The book's title was something Alexander's mother often said to him during his childhood.

"Those words, her words, have

been at the core of what I've accomplished in my life," he says. "My mother was the one who encouraged me to go to school. She was right, of course. My education has always been my empowerment."

Alexander's life is often described as one of exemplary firsts. Among them, he was the first person in his family to attend university, Canada's first black member of Parliament, the first black chair of the Workers' Compensation Board, the first visible minority to hold the post of lieutenant-governor and the first person to serve five terms as U of G's chancellor.

Alexander says he was "encouraged and prodded" for years to write an autobiography but kept finding excuses not to do it because the task was so daunting and because he's not one to brag about his accomplishments.

"One of the people who kept en-

See ALEXANDER on page 14



"GO TO SCHOOL, YOU'RE A LITTLE BLACK BOY"

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Creativity to Spare

United Way benefits from community spirit and fun

BY MARY DICKIESON

THE DEPARTMENT of Athletics has a great idea for a movie date. We'll don our bathing suits Nov. 22 at 8 p.m. and lounge in the Red Pool on an inner tube while watching the movie *Jaws*. Bet you've never done that before!

Best of all, your \$5 movie ticket will help support the University's annual United Way campaign.

There have been lots of antics and fun events on campus in the last couple of months to draw attention to the United Way, says campaign co-chair Irene Thompson, associate director of residence life.

"The University's community spirit really shines when there's an opportunity to help others in the greater Guelph community. People are so creative and eager to support this wonderful cause."

The United Way campaign has reached 92.4 per cent of its \$370,000 goal, raising \$346,385 as of Nov. 20.

"We're doing great," says Thompson, "but we rely heavily on special events to help push us over the top in the last two weeks of the annual fundraising drive. We have raised \$20,370 through special

events so far, but we'd like to double that amount before the campaign ends."

If swimming isn't your sport, Thompson suggests you try the mini-putt challenge running Nov. 23 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Financial Services. Or win your date a mystery dinner at the Aberfoyle Mill by buying a raffle ticket in the Office of Research. You might even win tickets to see the Toronto Raptors or the Guelph Storm if you drop by Revenue Control and the Athletics Centre.

Lots of other raffles are being held on campus, she says, and most are listed on the United Way website at www.unitedway.uoguelph.ca.

If you've already sent in a United Way pledge form, you're automatically entered in the biggest draw of all: a theatre weekend for two that includes one night's accommodation with breakfast, dinner and a show at the Stage West Theatre in Mississauga. That prize has been donated to the University campaign by Goliger's Travel Plus and will be drawn Dec. 5.

"We will include pledge forms returned right up to the final date," adds Fred Ramprasad, United Way

co-chair and retired associate dean of the B.Sc. program. "You can even download a copy of the pledge form by visiting the United Way website. It's never too late to help a good cause."

"Or a U of G student," throws in Barb Caswell, a graduate student in the Department of Animal and Poultry Science who is student co-chair of the United Way campaign. "If you buy a ticket in our tuition lottery, you can help the United Way and give a student free tuition for the winter semester."

There are secondary prizes that anyone can claim, she says, but the tuition prize must go to a student enrolled in winter 2007. Tickets are \$2 each or three for \$5; the draw date is Dec. 1. Look for students selling tuition lottery tickets in the University Centre and other campus locations or contact Caswell at barbaraa@uoguelph.ca.

There's still time to enter all the draws and raffles mentioned above, and if you entered every single one, you'd spend only \$16, says Ramprasad. "So visit our website to see what you can win with the other \$4. Where else can you have so much fun or do so much good with \$20?"

Nominations Sought for Leadership Award

LINCOLN ALEXANDER isn't the laziest act to follow, but those who demonstrate the qualities of the longtime U of G chancellor just might end up with an award that bears his name. The Centre for Studies in Leadership (CSL) is seeking nominations for the Lincoln Alexander Outstanding Leader Award, to be presented at the annual U of G leadership banquet next June.

Alexander, the University's chancellor since 1991, received the inaugural award this past summer at a dinner hosted by the College of Management and Economics and

the CSL, where it was announced that the award would be named in his honour.

Nominees must show a commitment to the CSL's core values of advocacy, collaboration, transformational leadership, ethical governance and service in their actions/body of work, all qualities Alexander has demonstrated over the course of his distinguished career in public life.

A selection committee will consider any citizens of the world for this honour. Ideally, they should be recognized internationally for their achievements in the core value areas,

either for one significant event or over an extended period. Though not a prerequisite, a link to Canada is highly valued.

The CSL was established in 2003 to undertake and promote research on leadership issues, develop new educational programs and participate in community outreach and promotional activities.

Nominations should be submitted by Dec. 31 to: Centre for Studies in Leadership, Room 116, Macdonald Institute Building. For more information, send e-mail to csldrshp@uoguelph.ca.

Associate VP Provides Update on White Paper

AT THE NOV. 7 MEETING of Senate, Prof. Alan Shepard, associate vice-president (academic), gave an update on U of G's White Paper, including the results of the consultations by the 21st-Century Curriculum Steering Committee and the establishment of working groups to discuss and formulate recommendations.

Shepard said it's anticipated that the working groups' recommendations will be presented to the provost, the community and then to any appropriate governance processes. He invited senators to contact him with comments, suggestions or responses to the White Paper, which is online at www.21c.uoguelph.ca.

Senate approved the faculty and staff members of the review committee for the dean of OAC. They are Prof. Karen Landman, Environmental Design and Rural Development; Prof. Peter Purslow, Food Science; Prof. Barry Shelp, Plant Agriculture; and OAC staff member Jennifer Kingswell.

Senate also approved the faculty membership slate for the selection committee for the associate dean of graduate studies: Profs. Peter Goddard, History; Alice Hovorka, Geography; Reggie Lo, Molecular and Cellular Biology; and Glen Van Der Kraak, Integrative Biology. Committee chair is graduate studies dean Isobel Heathcote.

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FOCUS ON AIDS AWARENESS

AIDS Awareness Week events continue Nov. 22 with displays of AIDS information and talks from noon to 5 p.m. at the Bullring. On Nov. 23, the Guelph AIDS Awareness Partnership hosts a dinner and the movie *A Closer Walk* at 6 p.m. at the Eccles Centre. The University community is invited on a Walk Through Campus Vigil Nov. 24 at 12:30 p.m., starting at the cannon. For details, visit www.studentlife.uoguelph.ca/citizencommunity/ga.ap.cfm.

CROSS-COUNTRY TEAMS BRING HOME THE GOLD

For the first time in U of G history, both the women's and men's cross-country teams won gold medals at the 2006 Canadian Interuniversity Sports (CIS) championships. It was the second first-place win in a row for the women's team. In addition, Gryphon Laura Moulton won an individual silver medal and Rachel Cliff was named CIS female rookie of the year. Coach Dave Scott-Thomas became the first coach in CIS history to be named women's and men's coach of the year in the same season.

KUDOS FOR FRENCH COURSE

The Council of Ontario Universities and its industry partners have recognized the Guelph course "Basic French: Writing 2006" with an Honourable Mention Award for Excellence in Teaching With Technology. Prof. Dana Paramskas, Languages and Literatures, and Jayne Butler, distance learning specialist in the Office of Open Learning, accepted the award in the distance education course category.

HURTFUL ACTS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AT THIS UNIVERSITY

Two weekends ago, there were 12 incidents involving graffiti of a racial and homophobic nature on campus. I am shocked and saddened by these hateful and deplorable actions.

It appears that these incidents may have been perpetrated by the same individual(s), but it is now more imperative than ever that students, faculty and staff make a strong statement that such hurtful acts will not be tolerated at the University of Guelph.

I am urging all members of the University community to join me, student associations and employee associations on Johnston Green Nov. 22 at noon to reaffirm publicly the respect we have as a community for the rights of all our members. It is also an opportunity to acknowledge and support the victims of hate crimes.

We must work together to ensure that the University's core beliefs and ideals prevail over closed-minded acts of intolerance.

I encourage anyone with any information about these incidents to call Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or Campus Community Police at Ext. 52245.

President Alastair Summerlee

Endowed Lecture Series to Bring Top Artists to U of G

Donor committed to development of young artists

BY RACHELLE COOPER

A NEW ANNUAL LECTURE focused on contemporary art has been created at U of G through a generous endowment provided by Dasha Shenkman, a Canadian art collector who has lived in the United Kingdom for 40 years.

Shenkman has long been committed to the development of young artists and has been involved with a number of arts-oriented organizations, either at board level or as a consultant, says Prof. John Kissick, director of the School of Fine Art and Music.

"Dasha's gift will allow the University to bring in five speakers over the next five years who can speak eloquently about contemporary art and contemporary culture in a way that will have ramifications for young artists," he says.

"This significant endowment is a

testament to her compelling vision of creating a yearly point of access to internationally renowned figures in contemporary art for Guelph students at a critical time in their development. We are sincerely grateful for the endowment and her extraordinary commitment to the Guelph program."

The inaugural Shenkman Lecture will be delivered by Michael Craig-Martin, an internationally renowned conceptual artist who is also known as a visionary teacher, March 13 at 5 p.m. in War Memorial Hall.

"Michael Craig-Martin was one of the pivotal figures in the Cool Britannia movement in the United Kingdom in the late '80s, early '90s," says Kissick. "He's never spoken in Canada before, so this is an exciting opportunity for both the U of G community and artists and art lovers outside of Guelph."

President Alastair Summerlee

says U of G is "absolutely thrilled with this generous gift. Not only will our students benefit from getting to spend time with highly successful artists, but this also helps put the University of Guelph on the map as a leading institution of contemporary art."

Says Shenkman: "I am a Canadian and I care about Canada. Having lived in the United Kingdom for a good many years, I have seen a breadth of culture both here and elsewhere. This series is an opportunity for students at the University of Guelph, which boasts one of the best fine art programs in Canada, to be exposed to new thoughts and ideas that will encourage them to look and think with maximum creativity."

Prof. Robert Enright, who is editor-at-large at *Border Crossings* magazine, will publish Craig-Martin's lecture in the well-known Canadian art magazine.

SNO Researchers Receive First NSERC Polanyi Award

U of G scientists among world researchers honoured for groundbreaking work

BY LORI BONA HUNT

A GROUP OF CANADIAN scientists, including several at U of G, are being honoured by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) for their groundbreaking research on neutrinos.

Scientists from the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO) have been awarded the inaugural NSERC John C. Polanyi Award, a \$250,000 prize named for the University of Toronto professor who won the 1986 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

"We are very pleased to share in this wonderful recognition," says Guelph physics professor Jimmy Law, who, along with other U of G researchers, has been involved with the SNO experiment since its inception.

Law went to Sudbury to represent the Guelph cohort at the award presentation. "We are part of a great team of international scientists whose hard work and dedication have made this project and subsequent discoveries possible," he says. SNO is a unique neutrino telescope that's the size of a 10-storey building. It's located two kilometres beneath the earth in a nickel mine near Sudbury, making it the world's deepest underground laboratory.

Guelph scientists were part of the original group helping with research and development and the construction of the SNO detector. They also helped design and build SNO's sophisticated instruments. In total, more than 130 researchers from 14 universities and research labs in Canada, the United States and Great Britain are involved in the project.

The heart of SNO's \$100-million detector is the world's largest acrylic vessel, holding 1,000 tonnes of heavy water on loan from Atomic Energy Canada Ltd. and worth an additional \$330 million.

In contrast to its massive size, the detector is used to look for neutrinos, subatomic particles that make up all matter in the universe. Neutrinos are extremely difficult to detect because they can pass through most forms of matter easily. In fact, billions of neutrinos pass through people's bodies every second with no noticeable effect.

SNO is the only facility in the world that can detect neutrinos accurately, thanks to the giant sphere filled with ultra-pure heavy water that contains heavy hydrogen. Neutrinos passing through break up the deuterium into a neutron and a proton, which is crucial to the measurement process.

In 2001, SNO researchers gained international recognition when they solved the mystery of solar neutrinos that had baffled scientists since the early 1970s: the discrepancy between the number of neutrinos observed and the previous predictions of theoretical models for the sun.

The researchers found that two-thirds of the electron-type neutrinos produced by nuclear reactions in the core of the sun change to other types of neutrinos — muon and tau neutrinos — before reaching Earth.

Further tests have confirmed those findings, and later this month, SNO scientists plan to complete the neutrino measurements they've been collecting data for over the past

seven years. Besides solving a 30-year-old scientific problem, the SNO measurements proved that the most basic laws of physics are incomplete.

U of G researchers were involved in both phases of data collection, and Law, a nuclear physicist, helped write and test the software used to analyze the data generated.

In addition to Law, U of G researchers currently involved in SNO are physics professor emeritus Robin Ollerhead, a member of the SNO collaboration since 1993; Prof. Bernie Nickel, who has served as a consultant; post-doctoral researcher Diane Reitzner; and PhD student Marc Beregvin.

"The world-class facilities at SNO, coupled with a community of top-notch physicists, have made Canada a global leader in the search for answers to some of the deepest mysteries of the universe," says Maxime Bernier, minister of industry and minister responsible for NSERC. "The success of these scientists is truly something in which Canadians can take great pride."

SNO's underground lab space is currently being expanded by 150 per cent, and a new surface building is being constructed. Once complete, it will be a world-class astrophysics facility called SNOLAB. Here, groups will develop, assemble and operate new experiments in particle physics. The expansion project is being funded by a \$38.9-million grant from the Canada Foundation for Innovation, with an additional \$10.4 million in support coming from other granting agencies.

people

EPIDEMIOLOGISTS HONOUR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENTS

The Association for Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine (AVEPM) will honour the lifetime achievements of recently retired OVC professor Wayne Martin Dec. 3 in Chicago. The AVEPM will present him with the Calvin W. Schwabe Award and host a symposium called "One Epidemiology: Linking Study Design, Analysis and Causal Thinking" in his honour. Martin, who joined U of G in 1974 and was founding chair of the Department of Population Medicine, will give the keynote address at the symposium. It will also feature talks by his colleague Prof. Cate Dewey and OVC graduates Brian Bedard of the World Bank, Jan Sargeant of McMaster University and Ian Dohoo of the University of Prince Edward Island.

FUTURE LEADER HONOURED

Master's student Emily Christofides is one of 10 students to receive a \$5,000 Futures Fund Scholarship, supported by Canada's Outstanding CEO of the Year award program. The scholarship was established to support Canada's next generation of leaders. Recipients are chosen from 10 selected schools of business across the country and are chosen based on their academic achievements, leadership qualities and extracurricular activities.

The following appointments have recently been announced at U of G:

- Sam Egleston, distance education production co-ordinator, Office of Open Learning
- Joanne Gale, client service adviser, Laboratory Services
- Josh Gielen, head commissary handler, Hospitality Services
- Genevieve Gundy, secretariat officer, University Secretariat
- Alexa Hinsperger, general accountant, Controller's Office
- Claire Jardine, assistant professor, Department of Pathobiology
- Cynthia Logie, dairy technician, Laboratory Services
- David Lubitz, assistant professor, School of Engineering
- Sally MacLachlan, administrative assistant, Department of Population Medicine
- Patrick Martin, manager of operations, Campus Community Police and Fire Prevention Division
- Robin McGinnis, secretary, School of Fine Art and Music
- Linda Melnick, manager of business and client services, Department of Athletics
- Michelle Morin, senior technician, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Karen Pentland, transcript clerk, Admission Services
- Amanda Pukarowski, sample reception technician, Laboratory Services
- Kate Revington, associate University secretary
- Clint Saunders, agricultural assistant, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Susanne Shearing, veterinary technician, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Josh Smith, lab technician, Laboratory Services

It Does a Body Good

New school activity program has U of G fitness and lifestyle supervisor encouraging youngsters to get a move on

BY DAVID DICENZO

AS A FORMER TEACHER, Pat Richards has always had a genuine concern for children. But the University's longtime supervisor of fitness and lifestyle programs is more concerned than ever because of the disturbing increase in the number of Canadian kids dealing with obesity and Type 2 diabetes.

The trend has prompted Richards to develop an activity program called Movin' On, a pilot project that was launched in three Guelph elementary schools this month.

"We know the situation is critical because we're beginning to see children with Type 2 diabetes, which typically is a disease of a 50-year-old," says Richards, a former high school phys ed teacher and founder of the Gryphon Activity Camp. "We're starting to see it in 13- and 14-year-olds. It's directly affected by activity and nutrition. And it can be reversed."

Getting children to move more is the first challenge in tackling the crisis facing Canadian youth. For various reasons — including technology and parents' need to know where their kids are at all times — children are playing less than in the past, says Richards. Adults require 30 to 45 minutes of physical activity a day, but because their bodies and organs are developing, children typically require three times that, she says.

Many just aren't getting the amount of activity they need, which can lead to a greater risk of health problems while also affecting their development as individuals, she says.

"What happens is that kids become motivated by these outside



Pat Richards with local grade schoolers taking part in a new physical activity program she developed.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

forces. They don't acquire the ability to entertain themselves, and that has a direct impact on their health, their social development and their psychological development."

The serious state of the problem became clearer in May 2005 when Active Healthy Kids Canada released the first-ever report card on children's activity, with the country receiving an overall grade of D. When the Ontario Ministry of Education announced that schools must provide a daily 20-minute program to address the activity issue, Richards

knew it might be a tough challenge for teaching staffs across the province and applied for some funding to create a program in Guelph.

She raised \$26,500 with help from a Communities in Action grant to develop Movin' On, a three-pronged approach that's being implemented at Westwood Public School, Tyder Public School and St. Patrick School.

"Pat initiated this project out of concern for the fitness levels of young people and as part of our department's desire to begin some col-

laborative initiatives with the Guelph community," says Tom Kendall, director of athletics. "We think this is just the beginning of some exciting projects for the future, and Pat is committed to ensuring that this project is delivered in a professional manner."

Movin' On features a creative play component, a playground games component and a portion dedicated solely to movement. In the first component, children use their imagination to develop games so they can learn to rely on their own

creativity to have fun. The second component reintroduces today's computer-savvy generation to games that were once common on the playground, such as hopscotch, tag and marbles.

"We've lost them a little bit," says Richards. "The idea is to teach these games to the kids so they can take them out to the playground and get together in groups and play. There's a huge social component to this."

Dance plays a big role in the movement part of the program, with the children performing various dances to develop "patterning of the feet." Young people are much more engaged when music is involved in a learning program, she says.

Richards has assembled teams of U of G students, recent graduates and staff to deliver the 40-minute programs three to four days a week at lunchtime. They're running for six weeks this semester, then will start up again in January.

Each of the participating schools has different needs and demographics, she says, but the program is designed to be flexible.

Richards notes that the program is just the "tip of the iceberg" when it comes to changing the activity levels of Canadian children, but they can change. And efforts like Movin' On can make a difference, she says.

"The human body loves to be active, and it responds in a very positive way if it's active. If it's not, it responds in a negative way. That's just how it functions. Activity affects self-esteem and gets individuals in charge of their own lives. When the body's happy, you're going to be happy."

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A Message From the Campus Accessibility Committee (CAC)

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Summerlee Appointed Chair of WUSC Board

Guelph has 20-year relationship with international development agency

PRESIDENT Alastair Summerlee has been named new chair of the board of directors of World University Service of Canada (WUSC), one of the country's leading international development agencies.

WUSC teams with students, faculty and institutions to internationalize Canada's universities, increase knowledge of global issues and foster human development through education and training. Summerlee has served as its board vice-chair for the past two years.

"Dr. Summerlee has a great deal of energy and creativity to contribute, and we're really looking forward to continuing our work with him," says Paul Davidson, WUSC's executive director. "He's an innovative thinker with a strong commitment to our goals."

WUSC has offered programs in some 50 countries for four decades.

"It has had a profound influence on people in many parts of the world," says Summerlee. "I'm honoured to be part of this important and growing enterprise and am particularly excited about taking on this role."

U of G has been actively involved in WUSC for more than 20 years, including participating in its student refugee program, which brings students from war-torn countries to study in Canada. They come from countries such as Afghanistan, Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda, Malawi, Zaire, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Rwanda in hopes of pursuing higher education in an environment that is free of violence or fear.

Recently, the local WUSC chap-

ters and the University have worked to bolster U of G's support of the program, including increasing the number of refugee students brought to the Guelph and Alfred campuses annually and boosting aid.

The student refugee program is just one of many international initiatives and projects sponsored by WUSC, which was established in 1939 in response to the need to encourage international understanding in a war-torn world.

It also offers students and faculty numerous unique training and educational opportunities overseas. These include an annual international seminar for which 20 to 30 Canadian students and two faculty members are selected to participate in an intensive six-week educational tour of a developing country.

International Team Examines Chinese Business Leadership

Study will look at the changing face of business in China today

BY REBECCA KENDALL

WHAT DOES IT TAKE to be a successful business leader in China today? That's one of the questions a team of researchers from the University of Guelph and China aims to answer.

In recent years, China has seen many state-owned companies and businesses make way for public ownership and access to western markets, so the country is repositioning itself when it comes to developing strong models of leadership, says William DeMarco, senior associate for program development in Guelph's Centre for Studies in Leadership (CSL).

"China is shifting from a traditional communist nation to a multi-dimensional economic system that includes entrepreneurship and western-style business practices," he says. "In the process, the country is developing its own style of leadership, part western and part traditional Chinese. Business leaders must develop new skills and competencies if they want to attract and retain workers."

DeMarco is involved in a study of Chinese business leadership with CSL director Prof. Brian Earn; Prof. Karen Korabik, Psychology; and Li

Zhang, a professor of business administration from China's Harbin Institute of Technology. Zhang, who is midway through a research leave at U of G, will be on campus until next August.

The study, which is a collaboration between CSL and Harbin's School of Management, will examine topics ranging from how business is changing in China's new economy and the influence tradition has on leadership styles to leadership in Chinese knowledge-based companies and the growing role of women in executive positions.

Earlier this month, the researchers gave a panel presentation at the conference of the International Leadership Association in Chicago, discussing how the emerging economy has affected business leadership in China. They believe that, in time, their findings will have a positive impact on Chinese leaders as well as on Canadian leaders who do business in China.

"Research and relationships with China are clearly an important part of Canadian business and North American commerce," says DeMarco, whose previous research has included a comparison of high-performing leaders in Japan and the United States to determine

the degree of cultural influence on their behaviour.

Earn notes that, in many cases, culture shapes a person's definition of appropriate business conduct.

"Things like treating others with dignity and behaving in an ethical manner are examples of traits that can be exhibited quite differently, depending on what those things mean in one's home country," he says. "Many Canadian leaders approach these situations with all their cultural filters and see only the outer layers of what's really happening. They assume they understand what's going on when, in fact, they really don't."

A common example of a misunderstood behaviour is "Guanxi," a Mandarin word that describes building a business partnership based on strong personal relationships, says DeMarco.

"It's a term with great significant history, but the concept is viewed by westerners as nepotism or favouritism to the chosen few. It's neither of those. It's just a different way of doing business."

Compare this with business practices in North America, where many transactions take place over lunch and a handshake, he says.

Understanding these differences is vital because misunderstanding can break a business deal and relationships are an important part of being successful in business, he says.

Chinese leaders need to find ways to negotiate a balance between the past and the present to make for a prosperous tomorrow, says Earn.

"They have tensions that western business leaders don't have. It creates an interesting case study for business leadership."



Prof. Susan Chuang says her studies of immigrant Chinese fathers have been eye-opening. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Study Dispels Image of Strict Asian Dads

Prof organizing conference on immigrant children

BY DAVID DICENZO

THERE'S A BIT OF IRONY in the research Prof. Susan Chuang, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, is doing on fatherhood in Asian families. Little work has been done on this subject, but what's out there cites Asian fathers as controlling and restrictive.

That's not what Chuang experienced in her own home growing up in Brampton. She proudly refers to her dad, a first-generation immigrant from Taiwan and practising physician, as "the best father in the world."

"He was like a little kid," she says. "He would always play with us. He planned his work hours so that we could have all our meals together."

A graduate of the University of Toronto and the University of Rochester, Chuang arrived at U of G in July from Syracuse University, where she taught for three years. Prior to that, she held a post-doctoral fellowship at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in Bethesda, Md., working with Michael Lamb, known as the "father of father research."

She is currently conducting a study of 70 Chinese immigrant families in the Toronto area that have one-year-old children. In two-day intervals, the parents individually track every moment of their interaction with the child. The results have been eye-opening, she says.

"My research is actually finding that immigrant Chinese fathers are highly involved. These fathers do take care of their children, they do play with their children, and these are significant roles that they see for themselves. It breaks away from the 'strict father' image. They are involved in their children's lives."

As a developmentalist, Chuang wants to observe these parenting patterns over time. She saw a need for this research because Asians represent one of the fastest-growing ethnic populations in North America, yet little is known about how they parent.

Eventually, she wants to expand the scope of her research to encompass other ethnic groups.

She's also interested in the mental health of adolescent Chinese immigrants. In this second line of research, her preliminary findings revealed that these young people were depressed, despite the stereotypical perception that they work hard and excel in school.

"What's more intriguing for me is not those who do well but those who don't and what happens to these kids," she says. "We tend not to talk about it. There's not a lot of literature that looks at the negative issues with Chinese adolescents or families. It's always a spin on the positives. It's a narrow understanding of what we know about Chinese parenting. We need to go more in depth to find out the positive and negative outcomes for children."

Chuang is currently organizing an international conference on immigrant children, to be held at Guelph next October. A spinoff from a similar event she hosted at Syracuse on immigrant fathers, the conference will be one of the first to focus on the various issues surrounding immigrant children.

Her interest in immigrant families isn't just academic — she also does some hands-on volunteer work with Asian families in the Toronto area, helping them adjust to life in Canada by offering advice on things as simple as writing a résumé.



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Profs. William Tam, left, Adrian Schwan and Kathryn Preuss are members of a new synthetic chemistry group on campus.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

CPES Team Has Good Chemistry

New research group has designs on materials

BY ANDREW VOWLES

FROM HEALTH CARE to computing, U of G synthetic chemists expect their pioneering research group will yield new ideas for making molecules and materials for a variety of uses.

Members hope to parlay current research in synthetic chemistry at Guelph into "the premier site" for finding new ways to make molecules and novel molecule-based materials, says Prof. Kathryn Preuss, Chemistry.

Formed this fall within the Department of Chemistry, the group is believed to be the most diverse of its kind at a Canadian university.

The Molecules and Materials Synthesis Group will see 10 faculty members collaborating to create new materials and investigate properties of those substances. In addition to Preuss, the group consists of Profs. France-Isabelle Auzanneau, Michael Denk, Abdelaziz Houmam, Richard Manderville, Mario Monteiro, Marcel Schlaf, Adrian Schwan, William Tam and Peter Tremaine.

Their research interests span several areas, including:

- making carbohydrate-based vaccines;
- creating precursors for molecular vapour deposition of metals used in making electronics;
- finding cheaper routes to make synthetic pharmaceuticals;
- designing catalysts to turn biodiesel byproducts into industrially useful chemical precursors; and
- making the first synthetic lung surfactants for therapeutic medical applications.

Common to all their projects is the design of molecular structures that may yield new and potentially useful material properties.

By studying fundamental properties of single molecules such as magnetism and conductivity, for example, Preuss hopes to learn new ways to design materials at the molecular level. These materials may combine unusual but made-to-order properties — such as magnetic, transparent and flexible all at once. Her studies of single-molecule magnets may lead to materials for use in quantum computers.

Group members plan to pool their research strengths to pursue funding opportunities and to share equipment and expertise. They also hope that a core of synthetic chemists will help attract students to the University.

"We want to make Guelph the premier institution in Canada for chemical synthesis," says Preuss.

'Early Researchers' Get Provincial Support

Innovative studies explore everything from cancer to quantum computers

SEVERN U OF G PROFESSORS are among 104 leading researchers province-wide who each received \$100,000 in support earlier this month from the Ontario Ministry of Research and Innovation's Early Researcher Award program.

The highly competitive program is intended to invest in promising young Canadian researchers and to attract world-class talent.

"This is a key element in building the province's long-term capacity for discovery and innovation," says Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research). "These seven researchers exemplify the standard of excellence across the University of Guelph. We are very proud of their success."

The program is open to researchers in the first five years of their career, and the money is supplemented by contributions from the universities. Recipients use the funds to further their research and to help build teams of graduate students, post-docs and research associates.

Engineering professor Michele

Oliver says she was "absolutely ecstatic" about receiving the award, which she will use to continue attracting high-quality graduate students to her research group. Oliver is developing computer tools to quickly assess the long-term safety of joysticks and other hand tools. Her research will help reduce repetitive strain and overuse injuries in heavy-machinery operators.

"My success in this award competition is due in no small part to the mentoring and support I've received from all levels of this university," she says. "I feel very lucky to work at an institution that values interdisciplinary research."

Other award recipients are:

- Prof. Elena Choleris, Psychology. Her research on the neurobiology of rodent social behaviour may improve understanding of human social behaviours and how the brain processes social information and regulates social behaviour.
- Prof. Marc Coppolino, Molecular

and Cellular Biology. He's investigating the function of proteins that control cell movement and may be a key factor in the progression of cancer.

- Prof. Milena Corredig, Food Science. She will use her award to further her studies into the use of healthy soy protein in emulsified foods.
- Prof. David Kribs, Mathematics and Statistics. He is using a mathematical approach to find new techniques for error correction and to maximize the potential of quantum computers.
- Prof. Lewis Lukens, Plant Agriculture. His research on maize plants aims to identify genes, clusters of genes and DNA sequences that could lead to greatly enhanced crop yields in Ontario.
- Kathryn Preuss, Chemistry. She is researching new molecule-based switches for the future development of materials such as lightweight, high-tech coatings with memory.

Women-in-Computing Talks Open Grad Student's Eyes to Future Career Possibilities

San Diego conference draws more than 1,200 delegates from around the world

BY ANDREW VOWLES

AS ONE OF THREE WOMEN in her class of about 50 computing science students at U of G, Alana Cordick is used to being in the minority. But the picture was reversed for a few days this fall when she attended the world's largest gathering of women in computing. Out of more than 1,200 delegates from around the world, all but about 100 were women.

"It was a completely different experience," says Cordick, now completing her fifth year in the co-op option of Guelph's bachelor of computing program.

She won a student scholarship funded by the National Science Foundation and Google to attend this year's Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing. The world's leading technical conference for women in computing science and information technology was held in San Diego.

Begun in 1994, the four-day event is intended to encourage women to pursue computing careers, find ways to increase the number of women in computer science, dispel stereotypes of computer scientists and allow participants to discuss their research. (Named for U.S. navy admiral Grace Hopper, a mathematician and computer scientist,

the conference is organized by the Anita Borg Institute for Women and Technology in Palo Alto, Calif.)

"The number of women who gathered at this conference was overwhelming," says Cordick. "Speaking with women in the various levels of their undergraduate and graduate degrees, academia-oriented individuals and industry-oriented individuals opened my eyes to the possibilities for future career paths I have available."

Originally from Oshawa, she will begin graduate studies at Guelph in January. Working with Prof. Judi McCuaig, Computing and Information Science (CIS), she plans to study intelligent tutoring systems and adaptive computing, or ways to make computing more intuitive and user-friendly. She hopes eventually to teach at a college or university.

Cordick spent two of her co-op work terms working for Computing and Communications Services on the University's MyPortico portal project.

She's one of four tutorial assistants — and the only female TA — for an introductory computing course at Guelph whose roughly 150 students are nearly evenly split between males and females. She also belongs to a "women in computing" group started by McCuaig.

"The demand for people knowl-

edgeable in computing is growing," says Cordick, who received three requests for her résumé at the conference.

Women make up about 17 per cent of undergraduate enrolment in computer and information science programs in Canada and about 28 per cent of master's enrolment, according to 2006 figures from the Canadian Association of University Teachers. Here at Guelph, women make up five to 10 per cent of the enrolment, says Prof. Deb Stacey, chair of CIS.

"This is comparable with engineering, and these are the two areas of university education where women are significantly under-represented," says Prof. Val Davidson, Engineering, who holds the NSERC/HP Chair for Women in Science and Engineering.

"I think the Grace Hopper celebration is very important as a networking event for all women in computing. It's also important in terms of retention, so that grads like Alana are motivated to continue in a career in computer science."

Stacey adds that such events help both male and female students learn more about career opportunities. Noting that Cordick spoke this fall to CIS students about her experience, Stacey says: "The men were envious about her having gone there."

For information about paid advertising in At Guelph, call Scott Anderson at 519-827-9169.

And Now for the News...

BY ANDREW VOWLES

"GOOD AFTERNOON, here's your wheat market update." It's just past noon at Guelph's Ridgetown Campus and time for John Jordan's farm market news report. Seated before the microphone of the broadcast booth next to his office, he takes about five minutes to reel off a lengthy list of up-to-the-minute prices on various commodity exchanges.

His practised oral shorthand — "Mount Elgin, four under, 67 under, soft red" — may mean little to most of us, but for farmers and producers across Ontario, his regular reports — including that snippet about wheat futures contracts — may mean the difference between a 50-so contract and a good price for their grains and livestock.

His signature farm market report, which is recorded twice a day and available through a toll-free number, is one of various ways this 1970 Ridgetown graduate provides timely market data and farm and rural news. These days, more users log in to the Internet for his information, but he still gets about 1,500 calls a month. The audience for his reports stretches from Ottawa to Windsor, although readers of Jordan's electronic agriculture newsletter can be just about anywhere.

"Keeping everyone informed and honest" is his description of the range of information services he's



John Jordan generates farm market reports by rounding up information from 51 sources on 23 varieties of common grain and oilseed commodities.
PHOTO BY RICHARD ARMSTRONG

been offering since returning to Ridgetown in 1991. He joined Farm Market News when it was moved to Ridgetown from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs in Toronto.

In 1997, the service was spun off as a business unit of the Ridgetown Campus. This is the only service of its kind run on any of U of G's campuses — and the only comprehensive provider of market data on grain and livestock in Ontario.

Jordan researches and creates daily market reports available through subscription e-mail, on websites for grain and oilseed commodities and through that phone-in service. Various news media outlets use his service for their own reports, and he produces custom voice or print versions for subscribers. Farmers and producers use that information to compare prices at Chicago and at local elevators.

Jordan generates the reports by

calling dealers and rounding up information from 51 sources on 23 varieties of common grain and oilseed commodities. He keeps records of Ontario prices for corn, soybeans, canola, wheat, barley, oats and mixed grains, cattle and hogs dating back to 1991.

One of the three desktop monitors in his office displays livestock futures from the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. He's also plugged in to the Chicago Board of Trade for grain fu-

tures and to the Bank of Canada exchange rates.

As a third-party source of information, the service gives grain and seed processors timely market data for settling contracts, says Jordan, who prides himself on offering an independent resource that's not tied to a particular commodity. The service is run on a cost-recovery basis under contract to producer groups.

"I jump to the tune of the farm organizations," he says. "Without this, the farmers would be flying blind. They'd be paying for a private service."

He emphasizes that he doesn't advise listeners or readers but simply provides information for them to make their own decisions.

Jordan also writes a weekly electronic newsletter called *AgriLink*, available by subscription and on the Ridgetown website. In it, he describes advances in technology and farm cropping methods and reports news affecting agriculture and rural communities in southwestern Ontario.

Recent issues have included articles about breeding of mini-watermelons in California, the return of DDT and the local winter wheat harvest.

Jordan, who studied agriculture at Ridgetown with thoughts of working his family's century farm near Chatham, now runs a bed and breakfast on the property with his wife, Barbara.

Down on the Farm

New farm counselling program enlists rural studies experts to help ward off looming crisis in Ontario

BY ANDREW VOWLES

UOF G RESEARCHERS are part of a new provincial counselling program intended to help farmers and rural families weather a "looming crisis" posed by unique challenges and problems in rural Ontario.

Prof. Harry Cummings, Environmental Design and Rural Development, is working with a graduate student to evaluate the new counselling service made available this fall to farmers across the province.

The service, called AgResolve, provides trained counsellors to help farmers and rural families with stress reduction, communication skills, parenting skills, money management and debt counselling. Eighty-four per cent of Ontario farmers in a recent survey said there was an urgent need for a free confidential service to help agricultural producers facing stress.

The program is offered in Haldimand-Norfolk, Chatham-Kent and the Cornwall area. Specially trained experts will counsel clients referred by an existing telephone support service for farm families called Farm Line.

"The idea is that the phone counsellor would make a referral to an agency in one of these areas and encourage the farmer to contact the

centre to seek help," explains Cummings.

The longtime Guelph researcher and rural studies expert has developed a system to monitor the program and analyze the results of the two-year pilot program. "By doing evaluation, you improve the delivery of the program."

He expects the project to yield a counselling manual that would be made available across Ontario and perhaps even nationally.

AgResolve project manager Leslie Josling believes there's a looming crisis in agriculture. "Farm families need immediate help while governments and the agricultural sector work on political and economic solutions."

Cummings says farmers face challenges that aren't typically experienced by people in cities or the suburbs. These include the threat of crop failure, low commodity prices,

high costs and long bours.

"In the farm family setting, the husband and wife and kids don't leave the home to go to the workplace. They live and breathe the crisis, so you can't get away from it."

Not only are neighbours and support services fewer and farther away, but also farm families are typically more conservative than their urban counterparts, so asking for help is sometimes more difficult, he says.

Earlier, Cummings studied the problem of spousal abuse in rural communities.

"In the worst kind of situation, the couple can't agree on a solution and it turns to blows. We hope to provide outlets before it gets there to reduce abuse."

Master's student Kathleen Hyland says farmers have to cope with rapid changes, including increasing corporate concentration among their customers, globaliza-

tion, altering consumption patterns and an aging farm population.

A longtime staff member at the University, she became interested in farm families while serving as an academic adviser for agricultural diploma programs formerly offered on the main Guelph campus. She helped her supervisor develop an evaluation plan for AgResolve.

Calling farmers "innovative and persistent," AgResolve co-ordinator Rick Gamble says: "We're confident

they can use these tools effectively to enhance life for themselves and their families."

The program brings U of G together with Haldimand-Norfolk REACH, a rural multi-service agency; Family Services Employee Assistance Programs; and Farm Line. It's funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Farm Credit Canada, the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.



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Giving the Brain a Boost

Biomedical scientist's research ties hormones to increased synaptic function

BY REBECCA MOORE
SPARK PROGRAM

ESTROGEN AND ANDROGEN, two common groups of hormones, are known for their effects on the human reproductive tract. But Guelph researchers say they may have another function in the human body — in the brain.

Prof. Neil MacLusky, chair of the Department of Biomedical Sciences, says estrogen and androgen may help improve memory and synapse formation (the bridges between nerves that enable movements and responses to occur), warding off diseases such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and other forms of dementia.

"It turns out that androgens and estrogens are important to maintaining the health of the brain," he says, "and they have a huge impact on synapse formation and memory."

Recent research has found that estrogen and androgen enhance brain function by improving synapse formation in the hippocampus, an area of the human brain that's important for committing experiences to memory. These hormones decrease naturally with age, and this may be a contributing factor to age-related mental degeneration, says MacLusky.



Prof. Neil MacLusky is studying how two common groups of hormones can boost brain function and memory. PHOTO BY KYLE RODRIGUEZ

He notes that maintaining mental health is becoming a primary concern for the public health sector.

Among his research projects, he is studying the potential of natural estrogen sources to reduce the impact

of hormone deficiency-related aging.

His timing couldn't be better. One in 10 people over the age of 65 and nearly half of those aged 85 or older have Alzheimer's disease. The situation represents a potentially serious public health risk as life expectancy continues to rise, says MacLusky.

"With the increasing likelihood of neurological problems as we age, we are potentially looking at a public health nightmare. It would prove to be a terrible burden on families, caregivers and the public health system if we don't find solutions."

In one project, he and a team of researchers at Toronto's Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre are studying the impact of using estrogen therapy on aging women who are beginning to show symptoms of Alzheimer's. Early results look promising, and the team hopes to shed light on the potential of hormone therapy to reverse or at least slow some mental degeneration.

Using hormone therapy to tap into the perceived benefits of estrogens and androgens is not simple, says MacLusky. Because most currently used hormone therapies have more than one effect, patients

hoping to gain a mental edge may also run the risk of developing cancer and other health consequences. But these problems may be overcome because of the potential for developing more specific hormone therapies, capable of triggering synapse formation in the brain without adverse effects.

The estrogens present in soybeans, the so-called phytoestrogens, represent one possible example. Initially, these estrogens were thought to have minimal impact on the human body because the receptor that allows estrogen to trigger synapse formation was unknown — until now.

MacLusky's research is finding that, at least in animals, low doses of phytoestrogen have a major impact on synapse formation in the brain, without stimulating undesired growth responses elsewhere in the body.

The next step is to identify the exact composition of this hormone receptor. Then it will be easier to determine what hormones may be best suited for brain health, he says.

His research is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the U.S. National Institutes of Health.

U of G Scientists Stand Up for Soy

Researchers counter soy's recent bad press with studies showing health benefits

BY RACHELLE COOPER

THERE HAVE BEEN some mixed messages lately about the dangers of consuming too much soy, but U of G researchers say that making soy products a regular part of a balanced diet will only improve your health.

News coverage in recent months has linked soy to health problems, including thyroid damage and reproductive difficulties, because of the hormone estrogen that's found in soy.

Prof. Istvan Rajcan, a soybean

breeding expert in the Department of Plant Agriculture, says the misconception occurred because isoflavones — non-nutritive, naturally occurring plant chemicals found in soybeans — are related to estrogens.

"The isoflavones in soybeans are a thousand times less potent than estrogen, so one would have to consume huge amounts of soybeans to have any estrogen effect," he says. "A small percentage of the population has food allergies to soy, but I have yet to see a study showing that an adult was negatively affected from

consuming too much soy."

Rather than doing people harm, soy isoflavones are known to offer some protection against hormone-related disorders, including certain forms of cancer, says Rajcan.

"Isoflavones have been shown to reduce prostate, breast and colon cancer; to slow the onset of osteoporosis; and to alleviate symptoms of menopause."

Adds Prof. Alison Duncan, Human Health and Nutritional Sciences: "In the research studies I've done so far, I haven't observed any negative effects of consuming soy."

In her study of the impact of soy protein consumption on reproductive hormones related to prostate cancer risks in healthy adult men, she found that some hormones changed in a direction beneficial for prostate cancer risk. The research, published in the *Journal of Nutrition*, also found that hormone levels remained within normal range, not suggesting any negative effects related to male fertility.

Duncan is also looking at the impact of soy on circulating thyroid hormones.

"My research found no effects from soy consumption on thyroid hormones among healthy young men, which adds to results from other studies that had similar findings. Overall, foods made from soybeans have many healthy attributes. They are often high in protein, low in fat and high in fibre."

Adds Rajcan: "Soybeans produce one of the healthiest vegetable oils, and soy protein has all the essential amino acids. It has a good balance of fatty acids and a relatively small amount of saturated fat. Soybeans are also one of the main sources of vitamin E, which is a byproduct of processing the oil from soybean seeds."

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved a health claim for soy foods stating that 25 grams of soy protein a day may reduce the risk of heart disease.

"A health claim in the United States would not be approved unless there was sufficient evidence to support its validity," says Duncan. "Canada's Food Guide stresses moderation and variety as key concepts to a healthy diet, and soy foods have many excellent attributes that fit into that recommendation."

In a study recently published in the *American Journal of Clinical Nu-*

trition, she found that soy protein can reduce blood fats in healthy men in a direction that reduces the chances of cardiovascular disease.

"That study showed that it's never too early to start incorporating soy into a balanced diet and that there are benefits even for people who are healthy."

Soybeans weren't grown in Canada until U of G professor Charles Zavitz brought a soybean plant to Guelph from the United States at the end of the 19th century and developed the first Canadian soybean, OAC-21, in the 1920s. Soy is now found in more than 300 products, and Canada produced three million metric tonnes of soybeans in 2005.

Guelph continues to be a leader in soybean research. Rajcan is working to make soybean oil even healthier, is developing soybean crops that will do well in shorter seasons and is developing soybean seeds with different levels of isoflavones. Duncan is studying the effects of consuming soy on Type 2 diabetes and is working with Rajcan to see whether isoflavones from soy actually get absorbed into the human system.

"I think the uniqueness the University of Guelph brings to the Canadian platform on soy research is that we've got a continuum all the way from agriculture to human health and everything in between," says Duncan.

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A Real Team Player

From campus volleyball to community theatre, Kemptville staff member does her part

By Andrew Vowles

SOMETIMES IT'S HARD to keep the roles straight. Earlier this year, Helen MacGregor was rehearsing for a production of the Gilbert and Sullivan musical *Patience* by the North Grenville Concert Choir. The script called for her to affect the mincing steps of the title role's shy village milkmaid. That proved a bit of a challenge for the former Gryphon athlete and current varsity volleyball coach at U of G's Kemptville Campus.

"I remember it was hard to do the dance," she laughs, recalling the director's polite but firm rebuke: "Helen, stop looking like a volleyball player."

In the end, she got the steps down pat, to the delight of the theatre audience and her own production team. Says choir director Jim Watson: "Helen has always been very athletic, and to watch her struggle with a little sway dance, holding the edge of her skirt as she moved across the stage, was a hoot."

All for the cause — a line that might connect MacGregor's varied pursuits as musician, actor, theatre producer, coach, athlete, sometime teacher and all-around organizer.

Take a recent afternoon this fall. On duty at the reception desk in Kemptville's main administrative building — what one colleague has called the "nerve centre" of the campus — she was fielding questions over the phone while receiving regular updates on that day's United Way fundraising luncheon and cake auction. This marks her third year as chair of the campus campaign, which has a 2006 goal of \$6,000.

"Last year we raised more than \$6,000. For a small campus, that's excellent."

This fall also marked MacGregor's fourth year of volleyball coaching. This year she's running both men's and women's teams, as well as two co-ed squads. (She's getting coaching help from another former volleyball Gryphon — Terry Laurence, manager of Chartwell's cafeteria on the Kemptville Campus.) In February, Kemptville athletes will compete in the Ontario Provincial Agricultural College Games with their counterparts at the Guelph, Alfred and Ridgeway campuses.

"It's a great way to get to know the students and help them learn more about volleyball and good sportsmanship," says MacGregor, whose own high point as a Gryphon was a trip to the national varsity semi-finals one year.

It was at Guelph as a graduate student that she met her husband-to-be, Paul Sharpe, in the late 1970s. Having completed a B.Sc. at Dalhousie University in her hometown of Halifax, she pursued a master's degree in reproductive physiology at the



Helen MacGregor and her son Thomas as they appeared in the Gilbert and Sullivan musical *Patience*.

Ontario Agricultural College. Later, the couple lived in Saskatoon, where Sharpe completed his PhD at the University of Saskatchewan, then they moved to New Liskeard, Ont.

In 1994, they came to Kemptville, where Sharpe is a college professor and researcher in cattle fertility, feeding and behaviour. MacGregor has taught applied biochemistry here.

Besides volleyball, her extracurricular pursuits on any given evening now take her in one of two related directions — music or youth theatre.

By mid-October, she was auditioning youngsters for a production of Disney's *High School Musical*, being prepared by the Kemptville Youth Musical Theatre Company (KYMTC). In addition to helping out with casting, she is serving as videographer and photographer and continuing her longtime role as treasurer for the troupe.

She's been involved with every production since the company formed in 2002. She was vocal coach for the inaugural production of *Oklahoma!* and produced *Oliver* a year later. The next year brought double duty as producer and vocal coach for *Honk!* This spring, she produced *Seussical* and pitched in again as vocal coach.

"She's probably the most efficient person I know," says Barbara Lacelle, KYMTC founder and artistic director. "She just keeps everything on time, running smoothly, and anytime there are problems, she's right on top of it."

The productions typically draw a total of about 1,100 people over four or five shows. They perform in the North Grenville Municipal Centre Theatre, a 300-seat facility that opened in 2005. Says MacGregor: "You get the enjoyment of seeing the kids do a performance that is amazing and makes me cry thinking about it."

Productions involve the entire family. Sharpe has served variously as videographer and carpenter. Their older son, Robert, now a student at Carleton University, was lighting and sound manager for all the group's shows from 2002 to 2006. Thomas, 16, has appeared in six productions, including last spring's turn as the Cat in the Hat in *Seussical*, and served as piano accompanist for this fall's auditions. Having spent 10 years on the local stage, he plans to pursue the arts at university with hopes of combining teaching and professional acting.

In a way, his development over the past decade mirrors that of his mother. MacGregor hadn't performed or even been involved backstage before moving to Kemptville, although she'd always sung soprano in church choirs. "Volleyball was more important," she says.

Then came Thomas's debut at age six in a church pageant. It was a natural step for Mom to get involved, she says, adding: "I can't say no to helping out." She expects to produce another show next summer.

She also sings in the North Grenville Concert Choir, for which she's been a soloist, choir manager and administrator for 10 years. This year will mark her fifth *Messiah* as a soprano soloist and chorister. For that production — typically involving 45 voices — the choir performs with Ottawa's Divertimento Orchestra.

MacGregor has also played several lead parts in the choir's Gilbert and Sullivan productions, including Mabel in *Pirates of Penzance* and Yum-Yum in *The Mikado*. Typically, the shows draw about 900 people.

"We're amateur, but we put on a good, enjoyable production," she says. "I'm always nervous and worrying about it until I step on the stage."

Among her fans is the youth theatre group's Lacelle, who says of her colleague: "She's very dynamic on stage. Not only does she have a beautiful voice, but she also has a lot of energy when she performs."

This fall MacGregor is also singing in a new eight-part voice ensemble from her church choir that will entertain visitors to Upper Canada Village in Morrisburg.

Athletic Club Supports Varsity Athletes

Guelph fitness centre to donate \$10,000 annually to build endowment

U OF G VARSITY ATHLETES will be getting some help with finances, thanks to a new partner in the community.

The Athletic Club, a 55,000-square-foot fitness centre that recently opened on Stone Road, will provide \$10,000 annually to support two varsity athletes. Representatives of the centre and the University announced the new scholarship at the club's official opening Nov. 7.

The club's donation will be matched by the provincial government, which will leverage it to \$20,000 a year, says Brenda Whiteside, associate vice-president (student affairs).

"We'll build an endowment, and the revenue coming from it will support varsity athletes who demonstrate financial need."

Each year, the money will go to one female and one male student selected by the Athletic Awards Com-

mittee. Applicants must demonstrate need and a commitment to their community, while maintaining an academic average of at least 80 per cent.

It's hoped that the first scholarship will be presented in fall 2007.

Whiteside says the Athletic Club initially contacted the University three years ago looking for a location to build a new facility, the seventh for owner Alan Quesnel and the London-headquartered chain. "Part

of their model is to build close to a university," she says.

Nancy Sullivan, vice-president (finance and administration), says the University was interested in adding amenities to the Research Park, and the Athletic Club appeared to be a good fit with the hotel/conference centre site that had been identified in the planning for the park.

"When we started to work with Future Inns Canada Inc. and the

Athletic Club, we realized this was a great match," she says.

Whiteside notes that the club's ownership group has been eager to get involved with the University, and she has put their staff in touch with U of G's Health and Performance Centre so the two groups can collaborate on various fitness and nutrition topics.

"There's a great commitment to being a partner with the University, which is quite rare," she says.

'Enjoy What You're Doing'

Organizational behaviour expert studies what works and what doesn't at school and on the job

BY REBECCA KENDALL

IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE that someone with as much discipline as Prof. Jamie Gruman was nearly kicked out of Concordia University as an undergraduate. In fact, his thesis adviser once told his entire class that none of them would go on to graduate school.

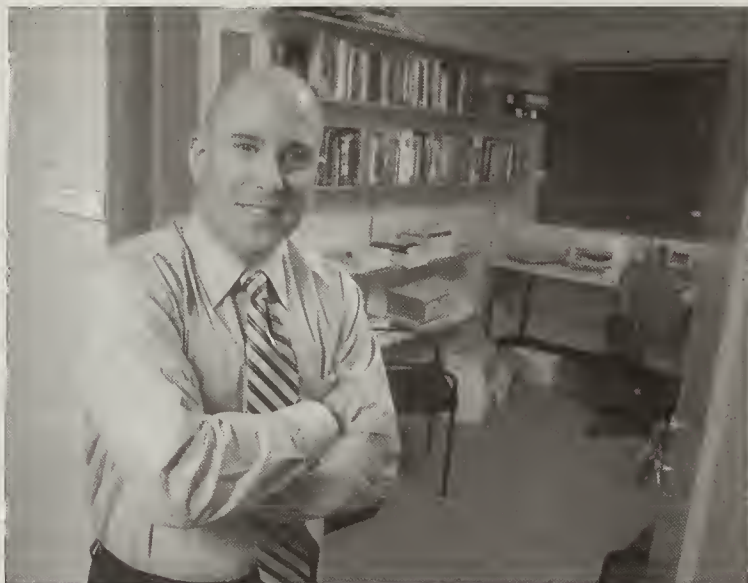
"I was specifically told to get out of psychology because it wasn't for me," says Gruman, who joined the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management as a specialist in organizational behaviour in July.

With a transcript riddled with incompletes and failing grades and a steady pattern of missing classes, Gruman booked an appointment with the chair of the university's psychology department to talk about his future and had a conversation that he says changed his life.

"The chair said that doing well in school requires two things — brains and discipline," says Gruman. "That was a light going off for me because, up to that point, I never considered that maybe what I was missing was discipline and the focus to just sit down and do the things I didn't particularly want to do."

It was a turning point for Gruman, and beginning that day he started investing a lot more time in his studies. He spent two years upgrading his marks and, despite the harsh message delivered by his thesis adviser years earlier, was accepted into the master's program at Lakehead and later earned a PhD from the University of Windsor. "I'm dogged about discipline now."

It's a story that he openly shares with his students and one that taught him some of the life lessons that have helped him be a successful academic. Gruman, who has a paper on pedagogy that's currently under review, offers up a list of measures he used to find success as a student and believes



Prof. Jamie Gruman learned the hard way that university success requires discipline as well as brains.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

that anyone who follows his advice will see a boost in their grades.

Gruman's recommendations, which are available online at www.uoguelph.ca/~jgruman, include overlearning the course material, coming prepared for class, visiting professors often and not studying during exam periods.

"You shouldn't try to learn new material during exams; you should be reviewing what you've already learned."

He's so confident this approach works that he offered his students at the University of Toronto \$100 if they could show they followed his advice and didn't see an improvement in their marks. "This stuff honestly works — I've never paid out

once," says Gruman, who taught business at the University of Windsor, St. Clair College and U of T, where he was nominated as a "best lecturer" this year in TVOntario's annual challenge.

He also says students should make a point of enjoying their time at university because it passes quickly. "It's important to enjoy what you're doing and to be happy doing it."

It's the same philosophy he applies to his own life and one that pulled him back into the academic world after working as a consultant specializing in leadership development in the early part of his career.

"In that world, you're up at 5 a.m. and working like a dog all day on

things that may not interest you. Consultants make good money, but they're not living well. They're tired, they're drained, they're grumpy. They drive to work in nice cars, but in my mind, that's no way to live."

He says he quickly returned to academia because he wanted to make a difference and because he wanted a job that he really enjoyed.

"I love getting up every morning and coming to campus feeling like I'm spending time doing my favourite hobby."

He often wishes his father had felt the same way about his job when Gruman was growing up. Instead, he remembers the many nights his dad would come home complaining about his day and his co-workers and often wondered what prevented people from enjoying their jobs.

"I began to ask: Why do so many people fail to get along, why do they fight over things that are so trivial, why do so many people dislike their work and what can be done about it?"

These questions have since fed his curiosity and driven his research, which examines a variety of topics related to individual differences in the workplace and social-organizational behaviour.

Gruman has consulted and delivered seminars for Fortune 500 corporations and not-for-profit agencies, including General Motors, Ford Motor Company, Deloitte & Touche, Hiram Walker & Sons, Accenture, the Children's Wish Foundation of Canada and the Ontario Lung Association.

His work has been published in the *Journal of Basic and Applied Social Psychology* and *Personality and Individual Differences*. In July, his paper on organizational socialization tactics and newcomer proactive behaviours was published in the *Journal of Vocational Behavior*. In addition, he co-edited the 2005 book *Applied Social Psychology: Understanding and Addressing Social and Practical Problems*.

Gruman is currently involved in a series of projects, including studies that examine emotional intelligence, psychometrics, socialization and engagement at work, people's preferences for socialization tactics, proactive behaviour by new employees, and the variances in people's ability to identify important information.

"Why can some people, like successful entrepreneurs, pick out relevant information and see trends while others can't? Can we train people to look for things they'd otherwise miss?"

He's also working on developing a new socialization scale that he hopes will address some of the weaknesses of the current model being used by organizations.

"It comes down to making work a better place for people," he says. "We spend so much time at work, we should be enjoying it. I teach my students that, when they're managers, they need to treat people as individuals because that's how you show respect for them and capitalize on their unique talents. The better you are at getting to know your people, the better a manager you'll be."

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Education Key in Fighting Obesity, Says Economist

Study finds targeted information needed to tackle society's weight problem, reduce health-care costs

BY ANDREW VOWLES

FEEDING CONSUMERS better information about food and health is a key to tackling obesity, says a U of G agricultural economist.

Providing more — and more-targeted — information about the health effects of consumers' dietary choices may help shrink both expanding waistlines and attendant health-care costs for treating diseases linked to obesity and excess weight, says Prof. Getu Hailu of the Department of Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics.

Besides a need for the skinny on food, his extensive literature review conducted last summer found researchers need to learn more about the economic causes of obesity, perhaps not an altogether surprising finding for an economist.

"We need to educate society," says Hailu. "I don't think people have good information."

Obesity rates have increased in Canada during the past quarter-century, he says. The obesity rate for children aged two to 17 rose to eight per cent in 2004 from about three per cent in 1978/79, according to the Canadian Community Health Survey. Over the same period, the adult obesity rate rose to 23.1 per cent, or 5.5 million people, from 13.8 per cent. "That's a huge increase."

Working with Inga Gorjaciha, a fourth-year economics student hired under a summer research assistantship, Hailu compiled data on rates of obesity and overweight as well as health and economic information from a variety of journals.

Their extensive review turned up no shortage of studies, again perhaps not surprising if the prevalence of news headlines on the topic is any indication. But Hailu questions how much solid, reliable information is available to consumers and how much of that information gets to the right people.

He's especially worried about lack of understanding among lower-income and less-educated groups, who are typically more prone to higher obesity rates. Noting that Canada's Food Guide is currently being revised, he says it's important to explore different ways to share its recommendations.

How is information shared with

consumers? What's the role of the family doctor in discussing nutrition and health implications? How to educate children and teens — many seeing vending machines being removed from their schools and confronting new menu choices in the cafeteria — about proper eating habits? How to cut through often-conflicting dietary and health claims, typified by diet plans from Atkins to South Beach?

If individual behaviour and cultural factors play a role, Hailu's study also found that wider factors from technology to agricultural production to governmental policy feed society's weight problem. Take corn production, a heavily subsidized sector in the United States. Corn is used to make fructose, a high-calorie sweetener found in all kinds of foods and beverages.

Subsidies for corn encourage farmers to grow more of the crop. In a self-feeding cycle, stepped-up agricultural technology and production allow even greater yields, leading to cheaper energy-dense products for food manufacturers and consumers. Who's going to eat the daily recommended amounts of relatively more expensive fruits and vegetables when you can opt for a cheaper sugar hit in processed foods, asks Hailu.

He applauds government regulations requiring manufacturers to include the amount of trans fats on product labels, because these fats are known to increase the risk of heart disease and other conditions.

Hailu also points to implications of obesity and overweight, including increased health-care costs to treat everything from cardiovascular disease to Type 2 diabetes. His review underlined the economic costs of absenteeism, premature death and lost productivity linked to these concerns.

"If we're not productive, we're going to be less competitive."

He plans to look more closely at another aspect of behaviour that he calls "discounting the future." Just as people may opt for spending over saving — today is more important than tomorrow — people may also decide to live large now because they believe they won't have to face a reckoning later. "From an economic point of view, it's a huge cost to society," he says.

All Over the Place

Spanish scholar draws on eclectic ideas collected in his travels for new art show

BY DAVID DICENZO

PROF. LEE L'CLERC, Languages and Literatures, lives on Toronto Island, but it's not exactly home. Born in Lyon, France, he also likes to spend time in Tobago, Italy and Spain, where his mother was born. L'Clerc, who's an artist as well as a Spanish scholar, says his nomadic existence reminds him of a line from a song by legendary jazz singer Nina Simone: "I don't belong here, I don't belong there."

It seems only appropriate, then, that his latest art exhibition, running Nov. 25 to Dec. 31 at Lehmann Leskiw Fine Art in Toronto, is called "All Over the Place."

"One of the reasons the show is called that is because I don't feel like I'm grounded anywhere," he says. "I feel like I'm from all over the place."

Whether in his Toronto-based studio or the apartment he rents behind La Fenice opera house in Venice, the city he feels most comfortable in after annual visits for the past 18 years, L'Clerc has devoted a good part of his life to putting his thoughts on canvas. "All Over the Place," his 16th show since 1988, is a collection of works that feature subjects ranging from falling objects and desert scenes to a plane crash. The latter painting was inspired by a terrifying experience he had last year en route to Tobago, when there was trouble with his plane's landing gear.

The show includes oil-based portraits, landscapes, sculpture and even one unique piece made up of 45 small canvases nailed together.

L'Clerc notes that art dealers today, particularly in North America, tend to group works under a single theme to create a brand that makes it easy to identify the artist. It's a concept he wanted to avoid.

"I was going to call this show 'Digression' because I wanted to depart from the traditional curatorial format you find in most galleries. I've noticed that there's a shift among certain younger artists to abandon the signature style. I decided I didn't want to have any uniformities. In the work itself, there is no uniformity. There is not a continuous narrative, but there is a concept that links all the paintings, which is to be all over the place."

Throughout his formal education, L'Clerc was actually quite stationary, completing his BA, MA and PhD at the University of Toronto. He arrived in Canada in the early 1980s after spending seven years travelling with his parents through Latin America, including a stint in Havana, where he attended high school. Encouraged by his parents to



Prof. Lee L'Clerc finds inspiration and a form of therapy in painting.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

study at an English university, he chose to come north.

In January 2000, Guelph was added to his long list of destinations when he was hired as a sessional to teach Spanish grammar. He began a contractually limited appointment as an assistant professor in 2004.

Today L'Clerc's teaching load includes an introductory course on Hispanic literature and a course on Spanish civilization, which allows him to incorporate art into history and literature, as he did with his PhD thesis. His doctoral research focused on the interrelationship between visual imagery and the text in the Latin American novel, including a comparative study of a Japanese novel that deals with the iconography of St. Sebastian as a queer icon.

He is currently writing an article called "Installation, Monument or the Marketing of a Tragedy?" about the work of contemporary Cuban installation artist Kébo and the interplay of language and object, Cuba's boat people and the making of politically sanctioned art.

L'Clerc was about 18 when he knew he wanted to be painter, but he also understood what a struggle the life of an artist can be, so he decided to also pursue studies in languages and literature. Ultimately, he'd like to develop and teach a university course about the merging of art and literature. He has intertwined his two loves whenever possible, but the

actual process of creating something on canvas is what inspires him most.

"It's active — that's what I like, the psychology of the whole thing, of painting, erasing, sitting back to look at what you're doing. It's like an addiction, a need to put ideas on a canvas."

It's also a form of therapy for L'Clerc. "One thing I've heard in Canada is: 'Thank God it's Friday.' People look forward to Friday because it's a time to relax. It would be equivalent to the way I approach painting — every time I find the time to paint, that's my Friday."

L'Clerc admits that painting has interfered with his personal life at times, affecting relationships because, as he puts it: "Creativity doesn't work nine to five. In certain cases, painting can be a curse. You're on your own."

The worst part of being an artist is the opening day of an exhibition, he says. He likens it to being stripped down and vulnerable, prompting people to point and criticize. But he understands that it's part of the artistic process and a necessity if he wants to show others what he's done.

Although there's a natural element of fear associated with revealing his deepest thoughts, L'Clerc also exudes a sense of pride in his work, especially with this latest show. "It's something we can all relate to. In these days of globalization, we're always moving from place to place."



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How to Grow a Better Car

Bioproducts project bridges gaps between farm, factory

BY ANDREW VOWLES

AT FIRST GLANCE, there's nothing remarkable about the grey-coloured footbridge over a stream threading through the northeast corner of the Arboretum. But that modest 10-metre-long span installed this fall is the only footbridge in the world made of wood fibre and plastic composites. More than that, it's a symbol of steps being taken by University of Guelph scientists toward developing a research centre in bioproducts — new products made from farm-crop materials.

Under a four-year \$750,000 project funded by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), Prof. Larry Erickson, Plant Agriculture, is leading a research group hoping to develop novel materials from major Ontario crop plants.

Begun last year, this bioproducts research program involves scientists at Guelph and at the universities of Waterloo and Toronto in finding ways to replace wood fibre and petroleum-based materials with agricultural fibre for a variety of uses in decking, siding, auto parts, landscaping, furniture, films and biomedical devices.

A planned pilot manufacturing facility to develop materials and test products will be run by a new company called GAP-C (Guelph Agricultural Fibre/Plastic Composites).

Pointing to the project's industrial partner, Erickson says the collaboration illustrates bridge building between academics and industry in developing new products and in adding value to agricultural materials.

"That's the kind of linkage we need at the University of Guelph," he says. "We can't do it by ourselves. We need links from that bale of straw in the field to a part in a car or in a bridge."

Researchers are studying biocomposites made from crop fibres, mostly wheat straw, soy residue and cornstalks. Those three crops make up about 80 per cent of farm crops grown in Ontario.

Initially the team plans to investigate uses of farm-crop waste to make strong but lightweight materials and products for farm applications ranging from grape vine support stakes and fencing to livestock pens and stalls.

"We're trying to add value to Ontario agriculture," says Leonardo Simon, a chemical engineering professor at the University of Waterloo. "We take material from the field, process it and bring it back to the farmers. The farmers benefit twofold."

U of G researchers in the Department of Plant Agriculture, the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development and the School of Engineering will also conduct studies at Guelph's research

stations and satellite campuses across Ontario.

"There's no other university in Canada with an agricultural college with such a multidisciplinary bioproducts emphasis," says Erickson.

He points to ongoing research under the program in the use of crop fibres in thermoplastic composites, use of vegetable oils for making polyurethane foams and genetic enhancements of crop plants for biocomposites.

"Wood fibre/plastic composites have grown from virtually nothing 10 years ago to annual sales of over \$2 billion in North America in 2004 and are forecast to be \$3.5 billion by 2009," says project partner Frank Maine, a plastics engineer and president of a Guelph-based consulting company.

"The new work being conducted with the collaboration of the universities of Guelph, Waterloo and Toronto will substitute agricultural fibre for the wood fibre."

The project will also provide graduate student training at the partner universities.

Bioproducts made from local renewable farm crops and crop waste are expected to yield new recyclable materials that take less energy to make than petroleum-based products. Crop-based materials are becoming more prominent in a growing range of products, including packaging, auto parts and building materials.

(The new bridge donated and installed this fall in the Arboretum was made by Burgess Bridge Co. in Hamilton. Its floorboards, uprights and arched railings consist of 70-per-cent polypropylene — the same plastic used in water bottles — and 30-per-cent wood fibre. The structure contains no crop-based materials.)

Funding for this research program has been provided by OMAFRA, Ontario wheat growers, CanAdapt, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council and the private partner.

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LINDSAY ROBINSON

Facility member in the Department of Human Health and Nutritional Sciences, joined U of G in 2003

Since moving to Ontario from Alberta in 2001, Prof. Lindsay Robinson has traded in her downhill skis for a set of cross-country ones. She's already looking forward to the snowy weather so she can drive up north to enjoy the trails in the Barrie area. She's especially fond of the trails at Highlands Nordic in Duntroon, just south of Collingwood.



Lindsay Robinson

Robinson prefers trails that are groomed for skate-skiing, a rhythmic style of skiing that requires diagonal strides just like those used in hockey.

"The skis are shorter and are cut differently, so you can push off better. It's a much faster method of skiing, a great total-body workout and tons of fun."

Physical activity is a priority for Robinson, who runs and mountain bikes in the milder months. She has competed in a few half-marathons and has recently taken to the pool three times a week while she waits for the snow to arrive.

She's not holding her breath for a white Christmas, however. The Nova Scotia native expects another "green and rainy holiday" when she and her husband, Glenn Parsons, return to the East Coast next month to visit family. She's especially looking forward to spending New Year's Eve with family and friends listening to a live Celtic band at one of her favourite pubs in Halifax.

SHARIFA SAMUELS

Fourth-year student in marketing management

Whether it's time or money, Sharifa Samuels tries to invest it well. This year, she became a member of U of G's Investment Club and has been learning how to manage her finances.

"I thought it would be good to spend time with people who know about investments and to learn how to handle my money wisely," she says.



Sharifa Samuels

About 20 group members meet weekly to discuss the stock market and other issues related to investment

management. They recently had a guest speaker in to talk about his job as a stockbroker.

Samuels also enjoys spending time at the Munford Centre and is a former executive member. "I stumbled upon the centre in my first year, and it was such a great place to go because I was shy and met lots of great people."

In addition, she just wrapped up her first season on an intramural basketball team, where she played forward. She started the season with no experience in the sport but learned quickly and is looking forward to playing again next year.

"Joining the team was a great opportunity to get out and have fun and relieve some stress and work with a group. It's so much more than running a ball up and down a court."

ALAN RAWKINS

Web designer in Communications and Public Affairs since 2006

Away from the office, Alan Rawkins has spun his love of computers and design into creating online games. Over the past year, he's produced *Pool Madness* (www.rawkins.com/games/pool/index.html), a simple pool game that challenges players to sink all the balls on the table in as few shots as possible, and *Dolphin Olympics* (www.rawkins.com/games/do/index.html), where players have two minutes to earn points by making a dolphin do as many tricks as possible.

"So far, *Dolphin Olympics* has been quite popular," says Rawkins. "I've received e-mails from people all over the world who've found the game online and are really enjoying it."

He's been creating games for the past year and is currently developing one that will teach and reinforce language skills. "I wanted the game to teach language in a fun and unique way that players would find appealing. I've recently finished the concept phase and am now looking forward to putting it all together."

Originally from the West Coast, Rawkins has been spending the past few months getting to know Guelph. He especially enjoys spending time downtown and stopping in at the Pennywhistle and The Bookshelf. He's looking forward to flying cross-country next month to spend the holidays in Smithers, B.C.



Alan Rawkins



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The next issue of *At Guelph* appears Dec. 6. Copy deadline is Nov. 28.

Rain, Rain, Don't Go Away

U of G engineers partner with city, developers in studies of rainwater harvesting systems

BY ANDREW VOWLES

THESE DAYS, rain brings not frowns but smiles at Prof. Khosrow Farahbaksh's house. That drumming on the roof means the new storage tank buried in his front yard will be topped up with a fresh supply of rainwater for use every time someone flushes a toilet, waters the garden or does the laundry — uses that account for about 40 per cent of water demand in the family home.

Discussing the novel rainwater harvesting system installed this summer at his Guelph home, the School of Engineering professor says: "For the first few days, the kids were conscious of the new system, but now they don't think about it as much — although, whenever it rains, they get excited."

They're not the only ones. Interest in rainwater harvesting systems is rising among municipal officials, builders and developers as a home-grown solution to mounting fears about water shortfalls and water-quality concerns, not just in Guelph but also in towns and cities across Canada. Through a new study involving a number of test sites around the city, including Farahbaksh's home, he and two graduate students hope to yield information about everything from the requisite technology to policy options for introducing this modern twist on yesterday's rain barrel on a much larger scale.

Along with the City of Guelph and two local developers, the environmental engineers are studying the feasibility and design of rainwater harvesting systems intended to help in conserving fresh water, staying off the need to tap new sources of water and reducing the impact of

stormwater discharge on lakes and rivers.

Farahbaksh has received \$250,000 in funding and in-kind support over two years from the Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) program, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. (CMHC), the City of Guelph and his private-sector partners to explore rainwater harvesting.

Such systems — basically consisting of a buried tank that holds up to 10,000 litres of rainwater captured from the roof downspout — are a modern-day version of the old-fashioned rain barrel. He says a major reason for the growing interest in rainwater harvesting is the impact that expanding development is having on freshwater supplies, not least here in Guelph.

Martin Laviolette, conservation and efficiency technician with the city's environmental services, says he hopes the U of G project will help reduce water demands and provide a money-saving alternative for the city and taxpayers.

"This project is a solution to water needs," he says, explaining that diverting enough water for toilet flushing alone would probably slash water use in the average home by about one-third. "We want to see what sort of impact rainwater harvesting can have on city usage of water."

An Australian study that modelled rainwater harvesting found that installing these systems in all new housing developments — along with some annual retrofitting — would be more economical than providing traditional water infrastructure. Under this scheme, major expansion to water supply infrastructure would be delayed by 26 years.

In addition to relieving pressure

on water supply systems, rainwater harvesting diverts water from aging stormwater infrastructure and rivers and lakes that, in many Canadian centres, are often overwhelmed during peak rainfall.

One of the project's test sites is the home of Ben Polley, whose company, Harvest Homes, builds straw bale houses. He installed a rainwater harvesting system when he built his own house three years ago in Hillsburgh east of Guelph. It's a model eco-home constructed with such features as solar and wind power and "green" building materials, including those signature straw bales.

"Essentially we're all drinking rainwater. It's just that some of us are catching it earlier."

Polley hopes the study will help answer questions about costs, designs for cold-climate systems and water quality to help builders and developers incorporate rainwater harvesting into new construction. Unlike other installations, the system at his house, including an activated carbon filter and ultraviolet disinfectant, produces potable water.

"We're using rainwater for 100 per cent of our water needs," he says. "Essentially we're all drinking rainwater. It's just that some of us are catching it earlier."

The U of G trio is now helping to design a rainwater storage tank for an eco-home to be built next spring in Guelph by Reid's Heritage Group. (That model house will feature several green building concepts, includ-

ing solar and geothermal heating.) Product development manager Andy Oding says his company wants to learn more about the system and how to build rainwater harvesting into entire tracts of new housing.

"The University is going to take the data and will create programs that help the end user, the builder, the developer and the city look at it on the larger scale," he says.

Oding adds that equipping more houses for rainwater harvesting may reduce development costs for pumping water, leading to cheaper homes or at least water-friendly homes without extra expense.

Farahbaksh says the Guelph team aims to help build capacity for large-scale rainwater harvesting in Canada, including developing appropriate technologies, regulations and building codes, progressive policies, economic and market viability, knowledge transfer, and public participation and acceptance.

"Most of the people who may be interested in rainwater harvesting wouldn't know where to start," he says. "It's exciting, but at the same time, it's challenging. Our circle is expanding."

Master's student Chantelle Leidl is studying the costs and benefits of rainwater harvesting, including looking at government policies and regulations and large-scale issues for municipalities to consider in introducing these systems. Master's student Christopher Despina is studying appropriate design of systems and investigating the quality of water captured from various roofing materials and surfaces.

Prof. Andrea Bradford, Engineering, is looking at the effect of rainwater harvesting on local and community watersheds and water

balance.

The U of G researchers are also discussing ideas with the Upper Grand District School Board for a system for a new 500-student school.

"In most elementary schools, 50 to 70 per cent of the demand for water is for toilet flushing, so rainwater harvesting would be ideal," says Farahbaksh.

He has fielded calls from various municipalities, including the City of Regina, which found the Guelph researchers through CMHC. "What we're doing is going to have national implications," he says.

Pointing to the Guelph-area partnership and resultant funding application, Laviolette says: "Realistically, the project wouldn't have happened without the OCE funds through the University. They need to see a research component and that private industry will be able to benefit from the possible outcomes. If the University weren't involved, that funding would not have come."

Meanwhile, the concept is having an immediate impact in the professor's own 20-year-old home. Late last summer, Farahbaksh hired a contractor to bury an 8,000-litre concrete tank in the front garden. Rerouted gutters and downspouts direct rainwater into a "first-flush unit," basically a pipe that diverts the first — and most contaminated — millimetre of water away from the tank. (The tank was already full by early October.)

The system is equipped with a rain gauge and a flow meter; a hand pump allows him to draw samples for quality testing. Referring to a turbidity test that compares water with the Canadian drinking-water standard, he says: "We're close to that."

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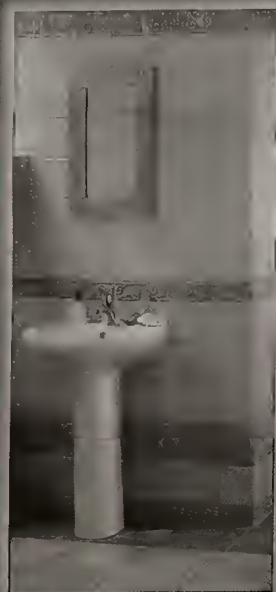
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Alexander Says Education Key to His Success

Continued from page 1

couraging me was president Alastair Summerlee. The difference with Alastair was that he wouldn't take 'no' for an answer."

Summerlee says he considered it his duty to convince Alexander to put pen to paper.

"I wanted to acknowledge the many contributions he has made to the University. I also believed that, by telling his story, he would be giving a great gift to U of G and to Canada, for Lincoln's life is truly the embodiment of what this country and the University aspire to be. He has overcome obstacles, has been a fearless advocate and has selflessly devoted himself to promoting education, equality and fairness."

Through U of G, Alexander was introduced to Guelph writer Herb Shoveller, and the two started working together on the book in the summer of 2005, finishing it in about eight months.

Go to School, You're a Little Black Boy chronicles the remarkable series of events that led to Alexander becoming one of Canada's most groundbreaking and influential leaders. It traces his early years in Toronto as the child of West Indian working-class parents — his mother was a maid and his father was a railway porter — to the present day.

Alexander writes fondly about his mother in the book. "She was a mere maid, but her knowledge and foresight transcended her station in life; she knew that accepting defeat was easy, but success was possible and education was the vehicle to take you there."

He also includes loving passages about his wife of more than 50 years, Yvonne, who died in 1999; his son, Keith; his daughter-in-law, Joyce; and his granddaughters, Erika and Marissa.

In addition, the book details many of Alexander's political and personal experiences.

Shoveller, who worked for the *London Free Press* for two decades before moving to Guelph in 2004, admits he was a bit intimidated by the project at first. A freelance writer, he is also a partner in a small company that does personal histories of people's lives.

"But this was by far my largest project," he says. "Plus, I had never done a history of anyone of Linc's stature, so while it was very exciting, it was also nerve-racking."

Before the project could even begin, he met with Alexander to make sure they could form — in the chancellor's mind — a successful team.

"I knew other overtures had been rejected," says Shoveller, "but the morning after our half-hour meeting, the chancellor called and said: 'Let's get this juggernaut rolling.'"

Shoveller calls working with Alexander "a tremendous experience." The two would meet and talk for hours, with the chancellor recalling

even the tiniest details of his life.

"During all our discussions, two subjects kept emerging: racism and the importance of education," says Shoveller. "They ended up being the central themes of the book and are reflected in the title."

Alexander was born Jan. 21, 1922, in Toronto and grew up there and in New York City. Back in Canada at age 20, he enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force during the Second World War. Following the war, he settled in Hamilton, where he married Yvonne in 1948 and earned a bachelor's degree in political economics from McMaster University in 1949. He went on to Osgoode Hall Law School and was called to the bar in 1953.

In 1968, against the Trudeau tide that swept the country, Alexander was elected MP for Hamilton West. He was re-elected four times before stepping down in 1980. During his years in Ottawa, he served as an observer to the United Nations in 1976 and 1978 and was appointed labour minister by then prime minister Joe Clark in 1979. From 1980 to 1985, Alexander chaired the then Workers' Compensation Board. In June 1985, he was sworn in as Ontario's 24th lieutenant-governor, serving until 1991. In 1992, he was appointed a Companion of the Order of Canada and to the Order of Ontario.

"This is a man who has walked among kings," Jim Bradley, Ontario's minister of tourism and minister responsible for seniors, said Nov. 16 during the Toronto launch of Alexander's book. Bradley added that, despite possessing such prestige and influence, Alexander has remained an extremely humble person.

During his years as U of G's chancellor, Alexander has conferred degrees on more than 20,000 graduates at convocation. His rapport with students is legendary, and he takes the time to say a few words to every graduate.

This June, the University presented him with the inaugural Outstanding Leader Award and announced that it will be an annual honour bearing his name. It's the third U of G award to carry his name. The University also has the Lincoln Alexander Medal of Distinguished Service and the Lincoln Alexander Chancellor's Scholarships.

Also in June, Alexander was named the "Greatest Hamiltonian of All Time" in a contest sponsored by the *Hamilton Spectator*. He says he's always felt indebted to his hometown and to Canada because they've enabled him "to be myself."

"I'd like to think that this book repays that debt somewhat. It's aimed at people who think they can't do something or think they'll never make it, and I'd like to think I'm helping convince others to never give up."



Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken on campus, you will have your name entered in a draw to be held at the end of the semester for a \$50 gift certificate donated by the U of G Bookstore. Anyone who submits the right answer by Nov. 24 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca or call Ext. 56039. The following people correctly reported that the Nov. 8 photo was taken at Alumni House: John Van Manen, Kathryn Virgin, Betty Clyde, Adrian Delyzer, Bill Clair, Bill Januskiwicz, Vikki Tremblay, Alf Conley, Danny Martin, Erin Levesque, Brenda Foster, Heather Ives, Tim Mau, Wayne Aitken, Grace Correia and Gisele Angel.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL

BMO Is Longtime Supporter

Continued from page 1

thropic support of the University dates back to Guelph's first capital campaign in 1969.

The first beneficiary of the BMO fund is master's student Lorna Deeth of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

Summerlee says the University is dedicated to giving students access to an exceptional learning experience and has been working diligently to increase the number of graduate students as per the recommendations of the provincial government. A key component of that effort is the availability of financial aid, he says.

Currently, OGS/OGSST programs operate on a two-to-one matching system, with the government providing \$10,000 towards each scholarship and universities providing \$5,000. Guelph is awarded

about 120 such scholarships a year.

"Private support is vital to our ability to fund our share of each award, and gifts such as this one from BMO make it possible for the University to leverage the government funding," he says.

In the past, U of G alumni, friends and corporate donors have also contributed to the OGS/OGSST program at Guelph by establishing other named endowments and making annual commitments.

A number of other new awards were announced at the Nov. 20 event. They are:

- Fred Thompson Scholarship. Established and endowed by the Food Industry Suppliers of Canada Scholarship Trust in memory of Fred Thompson, who served as secretary of the Canadian Dairy

and Food Industry Supply Association for 40 years.

- Support for three Ontario Graduate Scholarships in fine art for five years, funded by a \$75,000 donation from the Musagates Fund of the Kitchener-Waterloo Community Foundation. The first recipients are Martin Golland, Adam Brown and Jennifer Norton.
- Julie May (Goode) Whittaker Travel Scholarship. The first recipient is geography master's student Shirley Norton.
- Ron Scriver Memorial Bursary. Established by family, friends and colleagues in memory of Ron Scriver, a U of G graduate who worked at the Ontario Universities' Application Centre for 32 years.

Case Aims to Ease Access to Human Rights Hearings

Continued from page 1

is immediate past chair of the Canadian Race Relations Foundation and immediate past co-chair of the equality rights panel of the Court Challenges Program of Canada.

A lawyer by trade, he practised family, human rights and immigration law before becoming the Toronto District School Board's equity adviser in 1991. He is an adjunct professor at Osgoode Hall Law School and U of G.

In April 2002, Case helped implement the "Human Rights at the Uni-

versity of Guelph" document to manage human rights and equity concerns, complaints and education issues on campus — topics he says need to be addressed nationwide.

Case notes that there's a lot he'd like to accomplish in his new role.

"I'd like to see the commission be put on a better footing to work on systemic issues within large service providers in the province. Also, I'd like to see people be able to have quicker and more direct access to hearings on human rights matters."

The OHRC was established in 1961 to administer Ontario's human rights code. It's an arm's-length agency of government accountable to the legislature through the attorney general. Its mandate includes investigating complaints of discrimination and harassment, making efforts to settle complaints between parties, preventing discrimination through public education and public policy, and looking into situations where discriminatory behaviour exists.

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Two aluminum stepladders, eight and 12 feet; Roxton solid maple coffee table, two by four feet; wooden toboggan, Ext. 52137 or dstevens@uoguelph.ca.

Coffee table with smoked glass inserts, 47 x 23 x 19 inches; antique vanity with circular mirror; three antique dining room chairs, photos available, kczeric@uoguelph.ca.

1997 VW Transporter converted into camper van, 2.4 diesel engine, five-speed manual, new tires, Yamika roof rack, CD player, well-maintained, great condition, lots of customized storage space, 250,000 kilometres, Karen, 905-845-9875.

Toyo G-02 Plus steel-belted winter tires, 175/65R14 82T, used one winter, rims not included, Linda, Ext. 54344 or 519-837-0293.

1995 Mercury Grand Marquis, 160,000 km, requires brakes for certification, willsley@uoguelph.ca.

Four 205/65 R15 94Q Michelin X-ICE winter tires with standard rims, used one winter, 519-780-0360.

Chest of drawers; colour flatbed scanner, never used; eight diatonic colour-coded junior handbells, 519-821-8943.

Upright Hazelton Brothers piano, white, kmerrick@gmail.com.

Mid-sized multi-function desk with several swing-out shelves, keyboard drawer and tower stand, black metal and cherry laminate, good condition, easy to assemble, 519-836-7066 or jspurrel@uoguelph.ca.

Solid oak futon couch, mission style, pulls out to double bed, Pat, Ext. 52719 or dgcampbe@uoguelph.ca.

Side split in south end, 1,750 square feet, three to five bedrooms, four baths, finished basement with in-law suite, new flooring, furnace, central air and roof, view details at www.PropertyGuys.com/ID#116303, 519-546-1636.

FOR RENT

Two-bedroom apartment in heritage stone building close to downtown, quiet neighbourhood, park-like setting, sunroom, four appli-

cances, parking for two vehicles, available Jan. 1, \$985 a month, 519-835-5575 or bgreen@rlproyal.com.

Two-bedroom downtown loft, corner unit, cathedral ceilings, five appliances, central air, rooftop patio, indoor parking, storage, no pets, \$1,200 a month, 519-830-1568.

Furnished cottage in North Carolina, Pinehurst vicinity, sleeps five, reasonable rates, available by week or month, see photos at www.geocities.com/lieuallen/PeterHouse/index.html, 910-947-1659 after 6 p.m.

Furnished two-bedroom apartment in downtown century stone building, laundry, suitable for visiting prof, professional or grad student, available Jan. 1 (or earlier) to April 2007, rent negotiable, Frank, 519-836-6666 or fmarchetti4@rogers.com.

New townhouse at Kortright/Edinburgh to share with mature OVC student, Internet, parking, laundry, suitable for grad student or faculty on sabbatical, no pets, available January to April 2007, \$650 a month inclusive, 519-265-2112 or rmarceli@ovc.uoguelph.ca.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in southwest Paris, France, short-term rental; furnished two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, weekly or monthly, Nicole, 519-836-6745 or fmoll@rogers.com.

WANTED

Room for two or three nights a week for female sessional instructor for winter semester, lwayne@uwo.ca.

One-bedroom apartment close to campus for female mature student, 519-884-9065 or Christine. Hildred@gmail.com.

Experienced, responsible housesitter or sabbatical tenant seeking furnished, equipped non-shared accommodation in Guelph for win-

ter term, non-smoker, excellent references, dates flexible, Ext. 58434 or nboyd@uoguelph.ca.

Tutor for Grade 9 science, female preferred, Helen, 519-766-9898.

Accommodation for quiet, mature professional and a friendly beagle, needed until April 2007 with possibility of extension, parking, laundry, all amenities, guthrie.glenn@gmail.com.

U of G nutrition researchers seek seven- and eight-year-old boys for study of zinc intake, compensation provided, Melissa, 519-820-2633 or zip@uoguelph.ca.

AVAILABLE

ESL coaching, specializing in professional language upgrading for foreign-born professionals, speaking, reading, writing and listening, Jacqueline, 519-766-4504.

Transcription, word processing and editing, English grad, more than 15 years' experience, specializing in medical transcription, fast and accurate, reasonable rates, peggyassits@hotmail.com.

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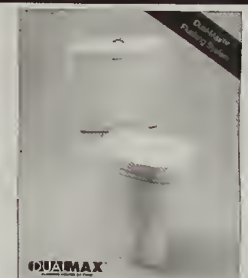
Publication Date	Deadline
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Jan. 17	Jan. 9
Jan. 31	Jan. 23

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EVENTS

ARBORETUM

Theatre in the Trees presents *There's a Burglar in My Bed* by Michael Parker weekends until Dec. 16. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.; showtime is 8 p.m. Cost is \$59. To order tickets, call Ext. 54110.

CONCERTS

The School of Fine Art and Music's Thursdays at Noon concert series continues Nov. 23 with Student Soloists' Day and Nov. 30 with David Gilham and Chiharu Linuma on violin and piano. Concerts are in MacKinnon 107.

John Goddard leads the U of G Concert Winds in a free concert Nov. 22 at 6 p.m. in the UC courtyard.

The U of G Jazz Band/Choir, conducted by Prof. Howard Spring, performs Nov. 23 at 8 p.m. in the University Club. Admission is \$2.

On Nov. 24 at noon, Prof. Ellen Waterman leads the Contemporary Music Ensemble in a "Noise Parade" from the MacKinnon Building to the UC, followed by a performance in the UC. The event is a collaboration with the Central Student Association's "Buy Nothing Day."

Henry Janzen conducts the U of G Chamber Ensemble Nov. 26 at 7 p.m. in MacKinnon 107.

The U of G choirs led by Prof. Marta McCarthy perform Dec. 2 at 8 p.m. at St. George's Church. Tickets are \$15 general, \$10 for students.

LECTURES

OAC presents Conor Delahunty of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization in Australia discussing "Sensory Properties of Foods: How Are These

Important in the Formation of Children's Dietary Habits and Then Later in Life in Healthy Eating Among the Older Population?" Nov. 22 at 5:45 p.m. in OVC 1714. On Dec. 6, Terry Anderson of the Property and Environment Research Center at Montana State University gives the Kenneth R. Farrell Distinguished Public Policy Lectureship at 5:30 p.m. in OVC 1714. His topic is "Markets and the Environment."

NOTICES

Const. Jim Armstrong of the Campus Community Police and Fire Prevention Division will stage a fundraiser for the Guelph Food Bank Dec. 12, playing piano in the University Centre courtyard from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and collecting cash donations.

The University of Guelph-Humber, in partnership with the Association of Black Law Enforcers, is hosting a law enforcement and emergency services career fair Nov. 30 from 4 to 8 p.m. For more information, contact Jael Richardson at 416-798-1331, Ext. 6454, or jael.richardson@guelphhumber.ca.

OVC will showcase the contributions of its graduate students with poster displays and student presentations at the 2006 Graduate Student Research Day Nov. 23. It begins at 8:30 a.m. in the OVC Lifetime Learning Centre. The day features a keynote address by Prof. Allan King, Biomedical Sciences, at 4:30 p.m. in OVC 1714, followed by a reception. King, who holds a Canada Research Chair in Animal Reproductive Biotechnology, will discuss "Cows, Clones and Chromosomes: Rest Stops on the Road to Discovery."

A presentation on the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Institute of Aging and its strategic

priorities and funding will be held Nov. 23 from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in UC 441. RSVP to Ext. 56753 or mbracken@uoguelph.ca.

SEMINARS

The Centre for Food and Soft Materials Science seminar series presents Jean Duhamel of the University of Waterloo discussing "Characterizing the Distribution of the Associative Pendants of Associative Polymers by Fluorescence" Nov. 23 at 2:30 p.m. in Room 3317 of the science complex.

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology seminar series presents Prof. Frans Schryer discussing "Globalization of a Nahua Village, Mexico" Nov. 23 at 4 p.m. in MacKinnon 224.

"Wzz: The LPS O Chain Length Determinant" is the topic of Kane LaRue in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology's graduate student seminar series Nov. 24. On Dec. 1, Jondavid de Jong considers "An Investigation of Early Events in Baculovirus Infection." The seminars are at 12:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 115.

The Department of Human Health and Nutritional Sciences seminar series continues Nov. 27 with Franci Pillo-Blocka of the Canadian Council of Food and Nutrition discussing "Tracking Nutrition Trends of Canadians' Knowledge, Attitudes and Behaviour on Food and Nutrition" at 1:30 p.m. in Food Science 241.

Next up in the Department of Physics seminar series is Prof. Ernie McFarland presenting "Energy: Where on Earth Are We Going?" Nov. 28 at 4 p.m. in Room 1511 of the science complex.

Prayer is a three-minute piece by Whitney Berry that was also conceived as a memorial for the victims of the Dec. 6 massacre.

TEACHING SUPPORT

For instructors and instructional support staff who run online WebCT courses, Teaching Support Services is providing a number of training opportunities over the next month. Repeat workshops focusing on the Gradebook feature of WebCT will be offered Nov. 23, 27 and 30. For instructors preparing an online course for the winter semester, a self-guided workshop runs Nov. 28 and guided workshops are on Nov. 23 and 30. Individual help with WebCT is also available Wednesdays from 1 to 4 p.m. in McLaughlin 200A. For more details or to register for workshops, visit www.tss.uoguelph.ca. If you have questions, call Mary Nairn at Ext. 53571.

THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Nathalie Newby, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Integrative Biology, is Nov. 24 at 9 a.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "Investigation of the Pharmacokinetics and Effects of Morphine in Fish." Advisers are Profs. Don Stevens and Nick Bernier.

The final examination of PhD candidate Joel Weadge, Molecular and Cellular Biology, is Nov. 27 at 1 p.m. in Room 1511 of the science complex. The thesis is "O-Acetylation of Peptidoglycan: Genomic Identification and Biochemical Characterization of the Enzymes Involved." The adviser is Prof. Anthony Clarke.

The final examination of PhD candidate Peter Adamic, Mathematics and Statistics, is Dec. 5 at 2 p.m. in Room 1511 of the science complex. The thesis is "Self-Consistent Density Estimation Methods for Competing Risks With Group Masked Double and Interval Censored Failures." Advisers are Profs. Ed Carter and Tony Desmond.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Guelph Wellington Women in Crisis is staging a candlelight vigil Dec. 6 to commemorate the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. It begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Boathouse.

Dublin Street United Church presents a CBC reading of *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m. All proceeds will support Wyndham House. Tickets are available at Macondo Books and at the door.

The Guelph Symphony Orchestra performs Handel's *Messiah* Dec. 10 at 3 p.m. at Church of Our Lady. For ticket information, call 519-763-3000.

Guelph Wellington Women in Crisis is hosting a free workshop called "Stress Busters for the Holiday Season" Nov. 30 from 1 to 4 p.m. at 18 Norwich St. E. To register, call 519-823-5806, Ext. 33.

Guelph Youth Singers host a seasonal concert Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m. at the River Run Centre. Call 519-763-3000 for tickets.

The College Women's Club hosts a holiday dessert party Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. at the Guelph Country Club. For tickets, call Dianne Greenwood at 519-763-0012 by Nov. 30.

The Elora Festival Singers perform Handel's *Messiah* Dec. 10 at 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Church in Elora and a Festival of Carols Dec. 21 at 5 and 8 p.m. and Dec. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at St. John's Church. For ticket information, call 519-846-0331 or visit www.elorafestival.com.

The Canadian Federation of University Women/Guelph meets Nov. 28 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Andrew's Church.

December Choir Concert to Focus on Peace

A DECEMBER CONCERT featuring the U of G choirs will include two pieces dedicated to the 14 women who were killed at Montreal's Ecole Polytechnique in 1989. The concert, called "Singing Peace," is Dec. 2 at 8 p.m. at St. George's Church.

"I think most people feel moved by the theme of peace and non-violence," says choir director Prof.

Marta McCarthy, Fine Art and Music. "I hope everyone in the audience will feel engaged and touched by the performance in some way."

Ecole Polytechnique is a 20-minute piece composed by Hildegard Westerkamp in 1990 as a way to "talk back" to the atrocity of the gunman's actions.

"It combines electronic sounds with church bells, birds singing, gun-

shots and actual excerpts from news reports," says McCarthy. "A student pointed out that it's sad that everyone knows the gunman's name but not the names of the 14 victims. The piece addresses that because, in the middle of the performance, we start chanting the names of the 14 women."

Prayer is a three-minute piece by Whitney Berry that was also con-

ceived as a memorial for the victims of the Dec. 6 massacre.

The other pieces on the program have connections with peace issues in a more general sense, says McCarthy. "Because *Ecole Polytechnique* is avant-garde and somewhat challenging, I wanted to balance the program with beautiful melodies and tuneful pieces, so there's lots of that in the program as well."

The choirs will perform Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*, Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, *Ella Sunlight* by John Estacio and *How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place* by Imant Raminsh, featuring soprano soloist Lesley Bouza.

Tickets are \$15 general, \$10 for students, and are available at the door or in advance by calling Dudley Gibbs at Ext. 52991.

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INSIDE: WINEGARD CREATES LECTURESHIPS • CO-OP EDUCATION TURNS 25 • SEASON'S EATINGS

All of Guelph's a Stage

Regional Shakespeare festival to celebrate the Bard Canadian-style

BY LORI BONA HUNT

SHAKESPEARE WILL TAKE centre stage in Guelph starting Jan. 11 when the University, the City of Guelph, the Stratford Festival and the Guelph Arts Council launch the regional "Shakespeare — Made in Canada" festival.

The extravaganza, which will run until May 2007, is in honour of the Sanders portrait — believed by many to be the only image of Shakespeare painted while he was alive — coming to the Macdonald Stewart

Art Centre (MSAC) for a six-month exhibition.

"We wanted to find a unique way of celebrating the fact that this historically significant portrait was coming to our campus," says Sue Bennett, Guelph's director of University and community relations.

"We came up with the idea of making it the focal point of a community festival devoted to the works of Shakespeare, with the goal of increasing awareness of our regional cultural excellence. The concept received immediate and enthusiastic

support from numerous community agencies, all of whom have teamed up to provide this special program of events."

The five-month-long festival will include an elaborate exhibit at MSAC, theatrical and musical performances, a speakers' series and children's educational programs. Sleeman's Brewery is making a special beer just for the festival, which will be sold locally until May. Proceeds from the sale of the beer will be donated to the festival.

See SANDERS on page 14

United Way Over the Top!

Campus campaign surpasses its \$370,000 goal by more than \$13,000

MANY OF THOSE who volunteered their time as convenors, canvassers and event organizers for the 2006 United Way campaign met for lunch Dec. 5 to hear U of G president Alastair Summerlee announce that they had exceeded their fundraising goal of \$370,000 by more than \$13,000.

Summerlee's thanks and congratulations were echoed by campaign co-chairs Fred Ramprasad, retired associate dean of the B.Sc. program; Irene Thompson, associate director of residence life; and graduate student Barb Caswell of the Department of Animal and Poultry Science.

"We are so thankful for the support of the entire University community," says Ramprasad, who identifies a number of key factors leading to the campaign's successful completion. "The number of leadership gifts — those over \$1,000 — increased again this year, almost every individual division reached its goal, pledges made through payroll deductions were up, undergraduate and graduate student groups were

both active in the campaign, we had strong support from the regional campuses and retirees, and more than \$40,000 was raised in special events."

Thompson adds that a final tally of giving will be made later this month as last-minute pledges and event receipts are forwarded to the United Way committee.

"We are so impressed by the continued growth in the University campaign," she says. "Our fundraising total increases each year and, with it, our importance in overall support for United Way Community Services of Guelph and Wellington. This year's successful campaign reflects a commitment by all of U of G's volunteers and donors to help the United Way achieve its three-year goal of closing the gap between giving and need in the county agencies it serves."

The UW steering committee recognized a number of volunteers at the annual luncheon by handing out "Pat-on-the-Back" awards, as well as three prestigious annual awards. The Gabrielle Hubert Award for excep-

tional service by an individual went to Janet Kaufman of the U of G Library. The President's Award for giving increases and participation in an individual unit was presented to Alumni Affairs and Development, University Systems, a division of Computing and Communications Services, received the Spirit Award for overall enthusiasm, participation and support of the campaign.

A new Co-chairs Award was also presented. Designed to recognize a member of the United Way steering committee who has served at least two years and demonstrates the spirit of altruism, the inaugural award went to two individuals: Lee Anne Clark of Registrarial Services, financial co-ordinator for the UW committee; and Mary Dickieson of Communications and Public Affairs, who does publicity for the campaign.

Recipients of the "Pat-on-the-Back" awards will be identified on the United Way website (www.unitedway.uoguelph.ca), along with the campaign total and a listing of special events held during the campaign.



The Past and Pasta

Prof. Sally Hickson, a recently arrived art historian in the School of Fine Art and Music, isn't Italian by lineage, but she's enamoured with Italy's history, art, culture, language and food. See story on page 4.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

National, Campus Collaborations Get New CFI Support

Three projects awarded more than \$14.5 million

BY LORI BONA HUNT

THREE WORLD-CLASS research collaborations headed by Guelph scientists have received more than \$14.5 million from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI).

Led by physics professors Stefan Kycia and Paul Garrett and chemistry professor Jack Lipkowski, the projects will position the University and Canada at the forefront of X-ray diffraction, nuclear physics, life sciences and bioelectrochemistry, says Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research). The CFI support underscores the national recognition that U of G researchers have achieved, he says.

"All of the proposals submitted

from across campus in this last competition were cutting-edge, and having three of them selected for funding is a great outcome. All three of the lead investigators and their colleagues at Guelph and across Canada should be very proud of their success."

Kycia received more than \$11 million to establish the Brockhouse X-ray Diffraction and Scattering Sector, which will be housed at the Canadian Light Source, Canada's national synchrotron research facility at the University of Saskatchewan. It will support a wide spectrum of materials research in academic and industrial sectors in Ontario and Canada, and has applications

See CFI on page 14

Season's Greetings!

We want to extend to all students, staff and faculty our best wishes for a new year of happiness, personal and professional fulfilment, peace and understanding. Thank you to everyone for making our community a successful, caring and nurturing place in which to live and work.

Catherine and Alastair Summerlee

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from the president

Dedication of Volunteers Never Ceases to Amaze Me

Editor's note: President Alastair Summerlee welcomes comments on his column at president@uoguelph.ca.

"You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give."
 Winston Churchill

THE HOLIDAY SEASON is a time for joy and celebration, but it's also a time for reflection as we consider the hurdles and accomplishments of the past year and acknowledge the many things we can be grateful for.

I always count among my blessings the continued commitment from the people who make U of G such a wonderful place to work and live. Indeed, there are always numerous examples every year of how our University community has helped change lives and improve life.

The process of looking back is always humbling. I am continually amazed by the dedication, scope and magnitude of community initiatives such as the United Way, Meal Exchange, Project Serve and the Masai Project. Such undertakings rely totally on volunteers, and I am awed by the fact that volunteers are never in short supply.

Regular readers here will know that I've written often about my pride in the volunteer efforts of our community members. Whether it's raising money to build an AIDS clinic in Africa, collecting donations for food banks, stepping up to serve on a committee or spearheading a community effort, our faculty, students and staff always seem up to the challenge.

I constantly hear stories of faculty and staff who dedicate their time to causes such as raising funds for research on cancer and spinal cord injuries, volunteering at overseas orphanages and helping to bring refugees to Canada.

And our volunteers never seem to tire, coming up with new and unique ways to encourage giving and to exceed my expectations. Last month, students outdid themselves — again — by collecting record amounts of food and funds through the "Skip a Meal" and Halloween "Trick or Eat" campaigns, part of the national student-run Meal Exchange program. And just last week, students and other members of the community used their collective strength to pull 17,000-pound tractors and help raise \$12,000 for Sunshine Dreams for Kids.

"Our volunteers never seem to tire, coming up with new and unique ways to encourage giving and to exceed my expectations."

It was also just announced that as a community, we once again exceeded our fundraising goal for the United Way, raising more than \$370,000 — an unbelievable accomplishment!

It is important to remember that volunteerism is not only in the service of people with need. That same spirit of volunteerism and those values are what impel faculty, staff, students, administrators and people from outside the University to lend their time and talents to the University, including senators, members of Board of Governors and the Board of Trustees and alumni volunteers. These people bring varied talents, expertise, backgrounds and perspectives to what is essentially a volunteer governance role. It's easy to overlook the efforts of these dedicated volunteers, but their contributions are also important and valued.

A large part of the job that we ask these citizen leaders to take on is setting the direction toward a viable, vibrant community where teaching and research flourish. That

means we need them to be leaders who are committed to a shared vision for the University and who are prepared to engage in enlivening the institution's vision and to become stewards of that vision.

That's not an easy task — in fact, it can be downright thankless at times. For we ask these volunteers to undertake challenges and meaningful work on and for the University, even when "challenging" may at times shade into "difficult" or "daunting."

So this year, as I am reviewing the many contributions of our University volunteers, I want to offer a special "thank you" to the external volunteers for the commitment they have shown and for their engagement in their governance roles and in the University.

I also want to add a special note here about another one of our volunteers: chancellor Lincoln Alexander, who has served for an unprecedented five terms. I was delighted to take part in a recent celebration to mark the publication of his memoir, *Go to School, You're a Little Black Boy*. As I remarked at the gathering, Lincoln embodies what our University community and, indeed, our country should aspire to be. He has overcome obstacles, has been a fearless advocate and has selflessly devoted himself to promoting education, equality and fairness — qualities he has displayed in his governance role at Guelph for the past 15 years.

I will be reflecting back on the chancellor's many years of service — to U of G, Ontario and all of Canada — as I recap the challenges and triumphs of 2006. The chancellor, those who serve on our governing boards and our campus community members who give so freely to volunteer initiatives are truly inspiring. They give us all something to think about as we prepare to flip the calendar to a new year.

Governor Named to Lead National Cancer Agency

BOARD OF GOVERNORS member Jeff Lozon, who is also a graduate of U of G, has been appointed to head a new \$260-million federal agency charged with developing Canada's strategy for cancer control, including supplying information about preventing, diagnosing and treating the disease.

Lozon, who is president and CEO

of St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto and who served as Ontario's deputy health minister from 1999 to 2000, was named chair of the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer by Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

The agency's job is to ensure that the best cancer-care practices anywhere in Canada are known and available to health-care providers

everywhere in Canada.

A 1976 political science graduate of Guelph, Lozon was appointed to Board of Governors in 2003 as an alumni representative and was reappointed for a second three-year term in June.

He serves on the board's development and membership and governance subcommittees.

at GUELPH

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 GUELPH

B OF G SEEKS NOMINATIONS FOR EXTERNAL MEMBERS

Board of Governors is calling for suggestions of individuals external to the University who might be considered for appointment to the board. B of G is particularly interested in expanding its list of qualified candidates to include external members from the following equity groups: Aboriginal Peoples, persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities and women. Recommendations are welcome at any time and will be kept on file for three years. Suggestions can be forwarded in confidence to: B of G Membership and Governance Committee, University Secretariat, Level 4, University Centre, or univsec@uoguelph.ca.

DEADLINE NEARS FOR LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Centre for Studies in Leadership (CSL) is seeking nominations for the Lincoln Alexander Outstanding Leader Award, to be presented at the annual U of G leadership banquet next June. Nominees must show a commitment to the CSL's core values of advocacy, collaboration, transformational leadership, ethical governance and service in their actions/body of work. Submit nominations by Dec. 31 to: Centre for Studies in Leadership, Room 116, Macdonald Institute Building. For more information, send e-mail to csldrshp@uoguelph.ca.

CEP NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE

U of G is currently negotiating a new collective agreement with CEP Local 2003, the union representing 13 operating engineers working in the Central Utilities Plant, but the parties have been unable to reach an agreement. As a result, employees represented by the union could be in a legal strike position as of midnight Dec. 11. The parties have agreed to continue negotiations with the help of a mediator Dec. 7. Watch the U of G website for updates on the negotiation process.

KUDOS FOR CHILD-CARE STAFF

At the Awards of Excellence dinner sponsored by the County of Wellington Child Care Services last month, U of G's Child Care and Learning Centre and its staff were presented with an award for their philosophy and pursuit of professional development. The criteria for the award are based on the standards for professional development outlined by the Canadian Child Care Federation.

LANGUAGE TEACHERS GATHER

The Canadian chapter of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese held its annual conference on campus Nov. 25. About 60 people attended the meeting, where papers were presented on language, pedagogy, literature and culture. Representatives from the diplomatic communities of Spain, Mexico and Ecuador also attended. U of G is the current seat of the chapter, with Prof. Rosario Gómez serving as president and Prof. Denise Mohan as vice-president.



Tractor Tug for Tots

A tractor pull organized by the Ontario Agricultural College class of 2008 raised \$12,000 last week for Sunshine Dreams for Kids, a charity that helps fulfil the dreams of children living with severe physical disabilities or life-threatening illnesses. Thirty eight-person teams pulled 17,000-pound John Deere tractors 150 feet as quickly as they could to the finish line along the road between Rozanski Hall and the Crop Science Building. The fastest teams were the Elmira Farm Service, the Guelph Police and the OAC '07 Heavy Weights. Sunshine Dreams for Kids has fulfilled the dreams of more than 6,000 children since it was launched in 1987.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Winegard Creates Two New U of G Lectureships

Inaugural lecture in new materials engineering slated for Dec. 13

FORMER U OF G PRESIDENT Bill Winegard has created two more lectureships that will bring esteemed scholars to Guelph to enhance learning for faculty and students.

His latest gift will establish the Winegard Visiting Lectureship in New Materials Engineering and the Winegard Visiting Lectureship in Condensed Matter Physics. They join the Winegard Visiting Lectureship in International Development that the former president created last year.

Winegard says he was inspired to establish and endow the lectureships "out of appreciation of my long association with the University. I also have great passion for teaching and research and have always been grateful for the opportunities I experienced as a student to meet with and learn from visiting lecturers."

Winegard is often called U of G's "intellectual founder." He came to Guelph three years after the University's founding in 1964 and served as president until 1975.

"Once again, our university is benefiting from the generosity and

commitment of Bill Winegard," says president Alastair Summerlee. "We continue to be humbled and inspired by his dedication and enthusiasm to teaching and learning and to this institution."

Each Winegard lectureship will bring a visiting researcher to campus for several days to give presentations and to meet with faculty and students. The first Winegard lecture in new materials engineering is slated for Dec. 13 at 10:45 a.m. in Room 1307 of the Thornbrough Building. The talk is free and open to the public.

The inaugural lecturer is Kim Woodhouse, a world leader in tissue engineering and regenerative medicine. She is a professor of chemical engineering and applied chemistry at the University of Toronto's Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering and a scientist at Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre.

Woodhouse's research on the development of artificial skin has established her as a field leader. Using a combination of tissue and polymer

materials, she hopes to encourage cell growth and limit water loss when treating chronic wounds and burns.

The first Winegard physics lecture will be held in 2007.

Meanwhile, the second annual Winegard lecture in international development has been set for Jan. 17 at 7 p.m. (location TBA). It will be given by Margaret Catley-Carlson, former president of the Canadian International Development Agency and former deputy executive director of UNICEF. She will discuss "The New World of Water."

Catley-Carlson is chair of the Global Water Partnership, a network that links thousands of water-management professionals around the world. She is also chair of the water-policy advisory committee of Suez Lyonnaise and the Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International.

Her 35-year career has included terms as deputy minister of Health and Welfare Canada, president of the Population Council and chair of the Geneva-based Water Supply Sanitation Collaborative Council.

President, Provost to Launch Forum

PRESIDENT Alastair Summerlee and provost Maureen Mancuso are launching a new public forum called "The Rumour Mill."

"The University is a dynamic, open community devoted to the communication of ideas," says Mancuso. "In such an environment, news — actual, potential or fictional

— travels swiftly and widely, and misinformation can propagate as well as reliable fact."

The "Rumour Mill" sessions, slated to run quasi-monthly starting in January, will give members of the University community a chance to separate fact from fiction, she says. "Ask us about reports and specu-

lations you've come across. Raise issues of concern that you feel need attention. Make suggestions or ask for clarifications. Get the official word on the latest unofficial whispers."

Look for details about the date and location of the first forum on the U of G website in January.

people

LIBRARIANS HONOUR RIDLEY

Chief information officer Mike Ridley will receive the Academic Librarian of the Year award from the Ontario College and University Library Association (OCULA) in February. He's being recognized for his outstanding record of achievements and contributions to U of G, to OCULA, to the creation of the Ontario Digital Library (now known as Knowledge Ontario) and to the profession in general.

NIGHTINGALE FOCUS OF TALKS

University professor emerita Lynn McDonald, Sociology and Anthropology, recently gave a seminar on "Florence Nightingale: The Origins of Public Health Care" at the U.K. Centre for the History of Nursing and Midwifery at the University of Manchester. She also gave a talk at the U.K. Centre for International Public Health Policy at the University of Edinburgh, discussing "Public Health From Florence Nightingale to Climate Change."

OVC STAFF DESIGNATED VET TECHNICIAN SPECIALISTS

Julie Ball and Cathy Cavanagh of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital have joined the Academy of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Technicians, having recently passed certifying examinations and been granted the professional designation of veterinary technician specialist in emergency and critical care.

STUDENT ART ON DISPLAY

Winners of the Central Student Association's fall Art in the Bullring contest are students Tori Drost, Joel Fullerton, Laura Wickett and Julie Pasila. Their work will be on display in the coffeehouse until March.

The following appointments have recently been announced at U of G:

- Mari Biehn, development program assistant, Alumni Affairs and Development
- Shelagh Daly, graduate secretary, Department of Political Science
- Drew Deitner, gardener, Grounds Department
- Anli Gao, microbiology method development scientist, Laboratory Services
- Dan MacLachlan, director of maintenance and energy services, Physical Resources
- Mike McNabb, lead hand/agricultural assistant, Elora Research Station
- Jaime Mishibinijima, manager, Office of Intercultural Affairs, Student Life and Counselling Services
- Wendy Morley, development program assistant, Alumni Affairs and Development
- Joseph Parkinson, lead hand/agricultural assistant, Elora Research Station
- Donald Peer, information systems manager, Campus Community Police, Fire Prevention and Parking Services
- Zhenning (Dennis) Xu, network analyst III, Computing and Communications Services
- Hui Zhu, assistant manager, Purchasing Services.

The Past and Pasta

Fine art prof embraces Italian history, art and food

BY DAVID DICENZO

PROF. SALLY HICKSON, Fine Art and Music, is Italian in spirit, if not by lineage. A specialist in Italian Renaissance and baroque art and history, she first went to Italy on a scholarship between her second and third undergraduate years at Carleton University. She spent the summer studying Italian at a university for foreign students in Perugia, an experience that would shape the path of her career.

Hickson, who has since enjoyed extended stays in Venice, Florence, Milan and Mantua and has taught a number of summer courses in Italy, still takes an annual trip to the European country, embracing the culture, food and, of course, the work produced by some of the world's most influential artists over centuries of time.

"I just love it there," she says. "It's like I was supposed to be there. Someone once told me I had a Mediterranean temperament."

Hickson is equally passionate about art and about teaching art history. She joined U of G this summer after teaching for three years at Brock University. There, she had a cross-appointment that involved teaching liberal and visual arts through a mix of literature, philosophy and theology — "everything from Homer to Toni Morrison," she says.

"It was great for me, but I wasn't doing what I love to do, which is to teach art history."

Here at Guelph, she's teaching a second-year Italian Renaissance course and a fourth-year seminar focusing on women patrons in the arts, subject matter that allows her to go into a lecture and simply speak from the heart.

In the winter, Hickson will lead a course called "The Art of Love: A History of Love and Its Representation From Plato to Shakespeare" as part of the University's special first-year seminars. She's intrigued by the idea of how love was expressed through art in the Middle Ages and the rituals associated with it. Through the texts of Plato and Ovid and the works of Botticelli, for example, it's possible to gain a better understanding of the whole culture built around love and expressions of love, she says.

Hickson plans to take a liberal arts approach to the course.

"It's a way of pointing out to students how you learn things, the process of how you acquire knowledge, how you investigate things, and how you look at things and figure them out. Received wisdom is great, but they have to learn how to be thinkers."

Her own educational experience was much different, says Hickson, who jokes that she was "the victim of every form of educational experiment that went on in the 1970s." She attended a high school where students worked at their own pace and was only 16 when she graduated. She went on to work at a public library in Ottawa for years before deciding to enrol at Carleton when she was 27.

Because of her general aptitude for languages, Hickson took up Italian. One of her professors, Claudia Persi-Haines, ended up playing a very influential role in Hickson's life.

"We would go shopping at the market Sunday morning and spend the whole day making a feast, speaking in Italian the whole time," says Hickson. "She was very generous with her time and taught me how to be a teacher at the university level. She also taught me how to make pasta."

Hickson has a great appreciation for Italian food, noting that focaccia and lemon risotto are two of her specialties. (Cooking also gives her a reason to take a trip down to Angelino's Italian market on Stevenson Street, one of her favourite places to visit since coming to Guelph.)

Her interest in Italian cuisine didn't emerge until her late 20s, but Hickson recalls being intrigued by art from a much earlier age. Once she got to Carleton — and later to Queen's University, where she was awarded a Bader Fellowship for her PhD work in art history — that interest grew, especially in Renaissance art.

"I'm very interested in the period," she says. "For me, the history is as important as the art. People sometimes say this funny thing to me when I tell them I'm a Renaissance specialist. They say: 'What's new to learn about the Renaissance?' And I think: 'Well, everything.' It's how you interpret it. These are persistent images, and the question is, why are they so persistent in culture? Something like Michelangelo's *David* was a political symbol. People actually acted against it, threw rocks at it and broke off parts of the statue. It's that idea of the object as history."

But Hickson admits that sometimes she's simply blown away by the beauty of a work.

"Really fabulous paintings can just transport you to somewhere else. Everybody has their idea of what is sublime in life, and for me, that's it."



Prof. Serge Desmarais will be involved in developing and implementing a strategic research plan for the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences and will explore opportunities for new research centres and graduate programs.
PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL

Psychology Prof Named First Associate Dean of CSAHS

Prof brings distinguished research record to new role

BY REBECCA KENDALL

PROF. SERGE DESMARAIS, Psychology, has been named the first associate dean of the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences (CSAHS). Desmarais, who holds the Canada Research Chair in Applied Social Psychology, has been a faculty member at Guelph since 1995.

The restructuring process that culminated in the creation of the College of Management and Economics (CME) earlier this year and the migration of three of CSAHS's departments to CME created an opportunity for repositioning CSAHS, says dean Alan Joseph.

In his new role, Desmarais will facilitate the development and implementation of a strategic research plan for the college and explore opportunities for new research centres and proposals for new and expanded graduate programs, says Joseph.

"Serge is superbly qualified for this leadership role. He has considerable administrative experience, an outstanding record as an adviser of graduate students and a distinguished research record."

For the past decade, Desmarais has been researching issues related to social justice in the workplace, income and income entitlement, gender issues and interpersonal relationships. An important part of that

has involved examining how real or perceived family responsibilities affect the careers of men and women, he says.

In addition to his academic work, he has been actively involved in providing consulting to both public and private organizations on survey design, field research and program evaluation.

In a recent study related to how women fare in the workplace, Desmarais and Wilfrid Laurier University professor Christine Alksnis conducted a survey of undergraduate students and found that respondents were more likely to assign lower salaries and lower ratings on work dedication to female job candidates who indicated a desire to start a family. They were also less likely to hire them. But men who expressed a desire to start a family were favoured.

Employers typically believe that family men are more driven because they've traditionally been the financial providers in their household, says Desmarais. Employers also presume that new mothers — and not fathers — will take parental leave, which means hiring someone to fill the position for a year and paying out additional benefits.

"Women who want children tend to be discriminated against in the workplace, whereas men experience the exact opposite effect," he says.

"They are applauded for their desire to become parents. It's a huge double standard."

Desmarais and Alksnis are now taking this research a step further by looking at how the desire to parent affects the careers of gay and lesbian employees, who have become eligible for parental leave for the first time in Canadian history, thanks to the legalization of same-sex marriage.

"The new legislation brings new obligations to extend parental-leave benefits to gay and lesbian parents, who — except those living in Quebec, where the benefit has been available since 2002 — haven't generally been considered in familial policy-making," says Desmarais. "We're in a unique position to explore an emerging issue not yet studied by psychologists — whether and how gay and lesbian parents are discriminated against at work."

He will examine how parental leave might affect the promotions, awards and pay received by gay fathers and lesbian mothers.

"No one has addressed this extremely important topic, and it's an obvious gap in the literature," he says, adding that 15 per cent of lesbian couples and three per cent of gay couples in Canada live with children.

"This study is groundbreaking and essential in our quest to recognize that same-sex families exist and that the issues they face in the workplace need to be examined. I believe our findings will give Canadians a more complete and representative understanding and appreciation of the fabric of families across this country and the attitudes and situations that affect this growing population."



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Co-operative Education Marks 25 Years

Program gives students a leg up at work

STORIES BY DAVID DICENZO

ABOUT 60 CO-OP STUDENTS are gathered in the University Centre. They're already well-versed in topics such as writing a dazzling cover letter and how to hunt for the ideal job, but the current session they're sitting in on is just as crucial to their future success.

Former Guelph co-op student Fatima Di Valentin, now a vocational and educational consultant at the University, opens her "Networking for Success" talk with some simple but useful words of advice: Be aware of body odour, don't be afraid to pop some mints to keep your breath fresh, and at any social function you attend as a professional, don't ever be the first one to make a beeline for the bar.

The session was part of a monthly lecture series being sponsored by Co-operative Education and Career Services (CECS) and Alumni Affairs and Development to celebrate the 25th anniversary of co-op education at U of G. Co-op was introduced here in fall 1981 with 22 students enrolled in 10 programs. A quarter-century later, Guelph has evolved into a national leader in co-op with more than 2,000 students enrolled in 36 programs. Over the years, co-op students have participated in a total of 8,240 work terms.

"We've certainly grown," says CECS director Karen Reimer. "The different programs at the University see the value of co-op, and they want

to buy into it. Experiential learning is attracting students, and co-op is a way to do that. It's also a huge recruitment tool for employers. Many of our students get jobs at companies they did work terms at. In some cases, they have a job before they even leave school."

Co-op numbers may have been small 25 years ago, but the experiences of those early students were just as broadening as they are today. Of her six co-op work terms in the 1980s, Lynne Mitchell has the fondest memories of her time spent at a grain elevator in the small town of Newdale, Man. Lesson one on the job? Grain dust can easily ignite.

"My boss had a very dry sense of humour," says Mitchell, a crop science major who enrolled in the co-op program in 1982. "I went into the grain elevator and said: 'So tell me what happened to Olddale,' thinking I was being very funny. He said: 'The last student blew it up.' That was a little warning to me."

Peter Wedel was another early crop science co-op student, eager to gain some crucial hands-on experience while earning money to pay for school. He says his most memorable placement was at a chemical company in Burlington.

"I enjoyed working there because I got to drive my own little Suzuki Jeep with a spray tank on the back to spray the orchards. I'd be up at four in the morning waiting for the sunrise and watching to see if there was

any wind. If there was wind, I went back to sleep."

Mitchell and Wedel have more in common than their stints in the early days of the Guelph co-op program. Both left the crop science field behind and both eventually made their way back to the University. Mitchell is director of the Centre for International Programs (CIP); Wedel is a counsellor in Student Life and Counselling Services. Their paths

"Many of our students get jobs at companies they did work terms at. In some cases, they have a job before they even leave school."

may have veered, but they both believe their co-op experience played an integral role in getting them where they are today.

"I went into co-op to become an agricultural extensionist," says Wedel. "That meant working with people and giving them information to make positive change. That's what I was excited about."

He returned to U of G in 1997 to earn a master's degree in marriage and family therapy and is now doing exactly what he'd set out to do, albeit in a much different venue than originally planned. Instead of helping people with their crops, he's helping them manage their lives. "That's my

life purpose," he says.

As for Mitchell, she spent some time on the Prairies selling fertilizer after graduation, then applied for a pest management job with CUSO in Thailand.

"Graduating with just a degree wouldn't have got me that position," she says. "All those co-op work terms together gave me workplace experience that other people graduating without co-op wouldn't have had."

Mitchell, who began working at CIP after completing a master's degree in rural extension studies here in 1992, says one of the most useful things she gained from co-op was the ability to make transitions.

More than two decades after she and Wedel headed out on their first work terms, co-op is still offering Guelph students life-changing opportunities. For fourth-year biochemistry major Jenea Bin of Aurora, who recently completed a stint at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children, co-op offers a chance to gain a wide range of experiences in the work world while still in school.

"I wanted to get a better feel for what I want to do after I graduate, so my goal throughout my time in co-op has been to take as many opportunities as I can and try different things. At Sick Kids, I got to develop a lot of skills, especially presentation skills. Getting a feel for talking in front of large groups was a good experience for me."

Since its earliest beginnings, the

co-op program has always created its own sense of community, says Reimer. And as co-op students gain experience over their years in school, many choose to give back, Bin included. She's now serving as a co-op peer helper, mentoring younger students as they take the mandatory "Introduction to Co-operative Education" course before venturing out on their first work placement.

Bin, whose interests focus on genetics and neuroscience, has fond memories of her own peer helper back in first year. "She was awesome and taught me a lot. I wanted to be a peer helper so I could contribute back what I've gained."

Melissa Kay, a second-year B.Comm. student in management economics, is taking full advantage of Bin's willingness to share her experiences. The Ottawa native is taking the intro co-op course and can't wait to get out on a placement.

"It was something that was really important for me coming out of high school," she says of her interest in co-op. "I knew for sure I wanted to go to a school with a co-op program. And Guelph had the best commerce and co-op program I could find together."

Although she hasn't been out on a work term yet, Kay says she feels well-prepared thanks to a wealth of information and services available through CECS. "There's so much information and it's a great help. It gives you a leg up on everybody else."

These Co-op Grads Are Wired for Success

UOF G GRADUATES Devin Gauthier and Mark George were students in Guelph's co-op computing and information science program at the same time, but they didn't actually cross paths until doing work terms at Imperial Tobacco.

As they got to know each other, Gauthier brought up the idea of starting their own business together once their school days were over. But when U of G's Co-operative Education and Career Services announced a new business venture program in conjunction with the Ontario government that would award returning co-op students up to \$3,000 to start a summer business, their plan got fast-tracked.

They took the plunge and created Wired Effects Inc., a business based in downtown Guelph that now has more than 50 clients.

"I've always wanted to own my own business," says Gauthier, whose entrepreneurial aspirations date back to his childhood in Espanola, Ont. "I actually started my first business in about Grade 7. I had a small hockey card shop in my parents' garage and made a couple of thousand dollars that summer."

George says he was looking to do something different for his last work term, after spending the previous three at Imperial, when the business venture funding was announced.

"I figured, what the heck, let's just give it a shot. And here we are."

The pair focus much of their efforts on developing content-managed websites and Intranet sites, enabling clients to make their own simple updates rather than relying on an information technology specialist.

They say they've learned a lot through trial and error since launching the company in 2004 — lesson one is not to rely on just one client — but more than two years later, they've seen definite growth and are pleased with the direction of the business. Their customers range from small local businesses to international corporations, whose varying needs provide a diverse and challenging workload.

"It's just fantastic because you're not constrained by a job role," says George, who does the short commute from his hometown of Kitchener each morning. "Both of us have done all sorts of things."

The duo agree that their co-op experience at Guelph paved the way for the position they're now in. At Imperial, they were responsible for desk-side support and working on the company's Intranet site. They soaked up all the IT and software knowledge they could, but also picked up on the networking and managerial skills needed to make an operation a success.

"I give a lot of credit to the co-op program," says Gauthier. "Schooling gives you all the theories, but it doesn't give you the experience. It doesn't give you the confidence that you get from going out there and doing it. Co-op has given us a lot. I don't think we'd be where we are today without it."

Those aren't just idle words. The 2005 graduates, who told their story at a co-op session titled "Off the Beaten Path" in Peter Clark Hall this fall, have literally put their money where their mouths are in an effort to give something back to the program that helped give them an early start in the business



Guelph graduates Devin Gauthier, left, and Mark George say their co-op experience paved the way to starting their own computer business. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

world. For the second year in a row, Wired Effects has donated \$500 for the Co-op Student of the Year Award, which is presented in the spring.

But they want to do more. When they have

the means and time to properly mentor a student, Gauthier and George would love to dip into the very pool of talent they came from. "Hiring a co-op student would complete things," says George.

The Right Medium for the Message

U of G prof studies glass-half-full, glass-half-empty approach to why we buy

BY REBECCA KENDALL

HELPING MARKETERS understand how people respond to the words and images they see in advertising and how to frame advertising messages to effectively motivate a target audience is the basis of ongoing research by Prof. Sunghwan Yi, Marketing and Consumer Studies.

Specifically, Yi has been exploring the significance of two distinct styles of self-regulation — promotion versus prevention focus — and how they influence a consumer's willingness to buy into an advertising message.

"Promotion focus involves concerns for one's aspirations and wishes and the presence and absence of positive outcomes," says Yi, who earned bachelor's and master's degrees at Seoul National University in Korea and a PhD at Pennsylvania State University before coming to Guelph in 2004.

Prevention focus, on the other hand, involves concerns for one's duties and responsibilities and the presence and absence of negative outcomes, he says.

People who have strong promotion focus are motivated by hearing what they may gain by buying or consuming a particular product, whereas people who have strong prevention focus are persuaded more when the message says that buying or consuming the product will keep them from harm or danger.

To explore the connection between message framing and consumer motivation, Yi conducted a study of 73 undergraduate students who were each asked to read a series of factually equivalent messages about Club Marina, a fictitious tropical resort, under the assumption they would be planning a trip there before starting their first permanent full-time job.

Half of the sample group was exposed to presence-of-gain message;



It's all in how you frame your message, says Prof. Sunghwan Yi, Marketing and Consumer Studies. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

ing; the other half received an absence-of-loss message. The presence-of-gain message emphasized the positive outcomes of a vacation at this resort by saying: "Your summer vacation at Club Marina will be filled with excitement and energy." In contrast, the absence-of-loss message was: "Your summer vacation at Club Marina will be free of any hassles and stress."

Another presence-of-gain message promoted the knowledgeability of the recreation staff and their ability to make guests feel confident in

trying new and adventurous activities. The absence-of-loss message said the club's staff would help ensure that guests didn't feel afraid of trying unfamiliar activities.

After reading the series of messages, study participants were asked to indicate their attitudes and intentions to visit the resort, and the extent to which they anticipated various positive feelings while reading the message.

Yi found that participants with strong promotion focus indicated more favourable attitudes and stron-

ger behavioural intentions when the message emphasized the presence of gain. In contrast, participants with strong prevention focus were persuaded more when the message emphasized the absence of loss.

This finding suggests that, in addition to the way consumers are influenced by the framing of a message, they're also influenced and motivated by their regulatory focus, says Yi. A person's regulatory focus is something that can often be traced back to his or her childhood and how his or her parents used promises of punishment versus rewards for behaviour, he says.

"Children implicitly learn to develop promotion focus associations when their access to their favourite toys is allowed or blocked depending on how they behave. In contrast, children are likely to become prevention-oriented when punishment is given or withdrawn depending on their behaviour."

Another significant finding was that participants anticipated stronger positive feelings when the way the message was framed was motivationally compatible with their regulatory focus.

Yi explains that these findings offer practical implications for international marketers and organizations. "Some cultures, including North American and Western European, are known to have strong promotion focus," he says. In contrast, East Asian cultures show a predominant prevention focus.

"In Eastern Asia, especially in Korea, China and Japan, people are raised with a strong sense of duty and responsibility and are more receptive to messages of harm reduction, but there are variances among people in the same culture as well."

Yi says a particular regulatory focus can be temporarily increased beyond an individual's chronic level by simply asking him or her to think of personal aspirations versus duties.

"Public-service announcements that emphasize the absence of negative events can be more persuasive when they are preceded by temporary priming of prevention focus."

Over the last 10 years, more and more attention has been paid to how messages are delivered, but studies have focused only on differences between one level of promotion versus prevention, says Yi. He has redesigned that approach and will be the first researcher to examine how people with varying degrees of regulatory focus respond to four different messages, each expressing the same factual basis, to promote a particular issue. Statements about the issue will be framed in terms of presence of gain, absence of gain, presence of loss and absence of loss.

Although the study is still in the design phase, Yi hopes it will help researchers understand consumer behaviour and motivational factors, and guide those who design marketing campaigns for businesses and for agencies that produce public-service announcements.

He has also incorporated his knowledge of framing messages into a new study that he hopes will help researchers better understand problem gamblers. Traditionally, problem gambling researchers have used surveys in which participants are asked direct questions about their attitudes toward gambling. But social scientists are increasingly recognizing that individuals often conceal their private thoughts and feelings and, in some cases, aren't even fully aware of how they really feel, he says.

"An alternative approach is to indirectly measure people's attitudes by observing how they react to gambling-related words and pictures versus unrelated words and images."

This method has previously been widely used to study racial stereotyping and prejudice against minorities, but has never been applied in problem gambling research, he says.

Season's Eatings

Researchers find daily supplement works to keep off excess holiday weight

BY RACHELLE COOPER

FOR MANY PEOPLE, it's difficult to avoid weight gain over the holiday season, but a study by Prof. Andrea Buchholz, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, found that overweight adults who took a daily supplement of a common dietary fat lost weight and kept it off over the holidays.

In the new study published in the *International Journal of Obesity*, Buchholz and her colleagues at the University of Wisconsin-Madison gave half of their 40 overweight subjects a daily supplement of conjugated linoleic acid (CLA) for six months and the other half a placebo capsule.

"Despite no differences between

the CLA and placebo group with regards to calorie intake or physical activity throughout the study, the CLA group still managed to lose weight prior to the holiday season and did not gain any weight over the holidays," says Buchholz. "Within the placebo group, holiday weight change was significantly greater compared with the pre-holiday period."

CLA is a naturally occurring form of linoleic acid (a type of polyunsaturated fat) that's found in dairy products and meat. It has a molecular structure that gets metabolized differently from regular linoleic acid, says Buchholz.

"Mice and other animals lose weight and body fat on CLA, but the human data weren't consistent."

There are different forms of CLA, and studies that mixed the two more common forms together showed the greatest promise, so the researchers decided to give their participants a mixed-form capsule of CLA.

During the same holiday period (November and December), the CLA group lost weight and the placebo group gained 1.5 pounds of fat mass.

"There's evidence that you don't lose that holiday weight, so that 1.5 pounds of fat mass would really add up year after year," says Buchholz.

Even though both groups reported decreases in physical activity over the holidays, the CLA group still managed to reduce body-fat mass. Over the course of the study, the CLA group lost 2.2 pounds of fat.

"That doesn't sound like a lot, but that's not just weight, that's fat mass," she says. "There was a tendency to lose it over the abdomen, which is even better because that's the type of fat that's really metabolically active and can put you at risk for heart disease."

This was the first study examining the effect of mixed-isomer CLA to use a four-compartment model to measure fat mass. This method combines underwater weighing, bone measurement, total-body water measurement and body weight.

"It's time-consuming and costly, but it's one of the most accurate ways of measuring body fat," says Buchholz.

The researchers also took blood samples at the beginning and end of

the study to determine whether there were any risks from taking the supplementary form of CLA.

"We looked at effects on liver function, inflammation and insulin resistance and found no adverse effects," she says. "It looks as though there are very few risks in taking the mixed-form supplements (which can be found in pharmacies and health-food stores) and lots to be gained."

An alternative to taking the supplementary form of CLA is getting the fatty acid from food sources, says Buchholz.

"Many studies show that low-fat dairy products are helpful in maintaining low body weight, which can probably be partly attributed to the CLA."

A Place to Call Home

BY ANDREW VOWLES

DURING A QUARTER-CENTURY spent looking after University family housing, you see your share of weird situations. Take the call Barbara Robbins received from one tenant to complain about water dripping through the ceiling. When she investigated the apartment one floor above, she found the occupants had recently returned from a successful fishing trip. Where did they decide to keep their live catch? "The tub was full of water and carp."

That was at the University of Waterloo, where Robbins spent 25 years, working her way up from front-desk clerk to department manager. Last fall, the Cambridge resident left Waterloo to join Guelph's Student Housing Services as manager of family housing rentals and community life.

Her goal: to highlight the "community life" aspect of that title on her business card. Repeating the mantra that impels her to personally show prospective tenants around both of Guelph's family housing locations, she says: "They're not just moving into a unit, they're moving into our community."

That community consists of two housing tracts at the far west end of campus. The older of the two is Wellington Woods, which consists of 140 two-storey townhouses on Stone Road directly west of the Research Park. "Married Students to Get Instant Townhouses" was the headline in a campus *News Bulletin* published in 1971, describing how the housing modules had been built in Milton and trucked to Guelph (rent, fully furnished: \$155 a month). In 1992, the College Avenue site opened with 200 units located directly east of the dairy bush.

Visit the latter and you find the family housing office tucked amid the units facing the campus. Robbins



Building a community is the goal for Barbara Robbins, manager of family housing rentals and community life.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

occupies an office equipped with toddler toys and children's videos—something to occupy the kids while tenants negotiate their lease or discuss payments. Next door is facilities co-ordinator Kathleen Hyland, who works directly with a five-person maintenance crew dedicated to family housing.

About 1,000 people, including about 300 children from toddlers to teens, live in U of G's family housing. Most leaseholders range in age from their mid-20s to 40s. About three in four families living this year in Wellington Woods (colloquially known as "the Woods") have come from abroad.

In most years, family housing is fully occupied. "There were years when the waiting lists were months

long," says Robbins. Tenants are drawn by the units' proximity to campus and relatively inexpensive rent.

She says living in family housing is more akin to leasing an apartment off campus than to renting in student residence halls. Here, tenants pay monthly rent rather than a semester fee and are permitted to keep pets. "We're more like a commercial landlord."

At the same time, she says, occupants want to feel that home is more than a place to eat and sleep. Working with two community advisers—the equivalent of residence assistants in student housing—Robbins has organized community barbecues, pizza parties, movie nights, a Halloween party and a pancake break-

fast fundraiser for the United Way. Recalling last winter's first-ever "families week," she laughs as she describes a street hockey scrimmage that saw a number of tenants new to Canada learning to play the game on what turned out to be the coldest day of the year.

She's paying attention to the needs of a sizable contingent of international students who live in family housing. Those needs may announce themselves in unexpected ways.

Take one couple who were having trouble getting money from their home country and had come in to terminate their lease. The woman broke down in Robbins's office, explaining that they lacked even enough money for groceries. Rob-

bins helped the couple work out a payment plan, and they're still here in Guelph. "A student wouldn't get that kind of support outside," she says.

During the past year, her office has worked with U of G's Office of Intercultural Affairs on programs such as "Winter Warm Up," in which faculty and staff donate winter clothing to international families.

"It's all about helping international students make a successful transition to the Canadian environment," says Laurie Schnarr, assistant director of Student Life and Counselling Services. "By partnering with Barb's office, we were able to offer many more programs for international families than we could have otherwise."

Robbins is also considering a new English-as-a-second-language program for tenants, who arrive speaking a variety of languages from Mandarin to Arabic.

Next fall, she'll begin a two-year appointment as chair of the appointments committee of the Association of College and University Housing Officers-International, based in Ohio. It's rare for a Canadian to hold a senior position in the organization, which helps set standards for the housing profession, provides professional development opportunities, advances the profession and, when necessary, acts as a lobby group. Robbins is also a former chair of the Ontario Association of College and University Housing Officers.

She says meeting and working with people is the best part of managing family housing. The worst part: bawling to reprimand tenants for anything from installing satellite dishes incorrectly to neglecting fire-safety regulations.

So far at Guelph, she hasn't come across anyone using the bathtub as a fish farm, but it's early days yet.

On the Other Hand

Study refutes scientific belief that left-handedness is linked to dyslexia, homosexuality, asthma

BY RACHELLE COOPER

CONTRARY to popular scientific belief, left-handedness is not linked to dyslexia, poorer spatial ability, homosexuality, asthma or hyperactivity, Prof. Michael Peters, Psychology, has found.

"We've shown on a number of tasks that there's no difference between right- and left-handedness," says Peters, whose study of more than a quarter million people is published in the current issue of *Brain and Cognition*, co-authored by psychology professors Stian Reimers of University College London and John Manning of the University of Central Lancashire.

The study did show, however, that individuals who didn't favour either hand for writing had significantly poorer spatial performance in a mental rotation task and significantly higher prevalence of homosexuality, bisexuality, hyperactivity, dyslexia and asthma than did individuals with clear left- or right-hand preferences.

The survey was hosted on the BBC *Science and Nature* website for a number of weeks. It included more than 150 questions about demographics, personality, sexuality, social attitudes and behaviours, as well as spatial and verbal tasks.

Obtaining data on 255,000 people is extremely significant in the study of handedness, says Peters. "Because only 10 per cent of the population is left-handed, you need a huge study group to draw any sensible conclusions."

The researchers were cautious about their study results because of the lack of control over an Internet survey, but when they cross-checked the results, "we were impressed by how similar the prevalence figures we observed were to the figures obtained under more controlled conditions in the lab," he says.

Instead of asking people if they were left- or right-handed, the survey asked subjects to indicate hand preference for writing on a scale of one (left) to five (right). Participants who chose "three" were comfortable writing with either hand. This mixed group made up less

than one per cent of the participants, but they produced the most interesting results, says Peters.

"Normally the mixed group is so small in laboratory studies that you can't draw any conclusions from it."

The survey also asked participants to self-identify their sexual orientation as heterosexual, homosexual or bisexual. There was no significant difference in sexual orientation between the left- and right-handed respondents, but both males and females who said they used "either hand" to write were overrepresented in the non-heterosexual categories, especially the bisexual category.

There has been some evidence that right- and left-handed people exhibit significant differences in spatial ability, says Peters, "but we just didn't find that in this study. We did find, however, that mixed-handedness definitely seems to be a factor in spatial ability." Respondents who chose the "either hand" option performed worse on the spatial tasks.

The researchers included health categories

and developmental problems in their study because there's a general underlying rationale that left-handedness is a marker for "something not quite right," says Peters. The lefties didn't differ statistically from the right-handed participants in the number of asthmatics, dyslexics or cases of hyperactivity, but individuals in the mixed-hand category had the highest prevalence of these traits.

"Our study shows that much greater attention has to be paid to the definition of handedness," he says.

Peters stresses that just because someone can write with either hand doesn't mean the person is homosexual, bisexual or dyslexic.

"Individuals who are unclear about their handedness make up a disproportionately higher number of dyslexics, but since there are so few dyslexics in the first place, the majority of people with mixed-handedness aren't dyslexic. Similarly, there is a disproportionate number of homosexual males with mixed-handedness, but the largest number of mixed-handed males aren't homosexual."

Food Chain Faces Serious Sting, Says Prof

Decline in bees and other pollinators puts food crops, flowering plants, wildlife in jeopardy

BY RACHELLE COOPER

THE DECLINE of the buzzing sound from bees may be music to some people's ears, but Prof. Peter Kevan, Environmental Biology, is part of a team of researchers who say shrinking pollinator populations in North America pose a serious threat to plants, the food chain and the economy.

Kevan co-wrote a new 300-page U.S. National Research Council report with 14 other researchers showing that U.S. honeybees have declined some 30 per cent in the past 20 years. Bats, which pollinate the agave plant used to make tequila, and unmanaged bees, which polli-

nate forest berries and seeds for wildlife, are also in jeopardy.

"This is a huge problem because one in every three bites of human food depends on pollinators and, in nature, 75 per cent of all flowering plants depend on pollinators for fertilization," says Kevan, who's been studying pollinators for more than 30 years and co-founded the Canadian Pollination Initiative.

"If the pollinators aren't there, crop yields suffer. It's simple supply and demand; if yields aren't as high, prices of affected commodities go up."

This problem has already surfaced in the production of blueberries in the Maritimes and almonds in California, he says.

The main culprits in the pollinator decline are habitat loss, pesticides and, for honeybees and bumblebees, parasites and disease.

The problem is worse in the United States than in Canada, says Kevan.

"U.S. researchers could learn a lot from how Canada has managed to maintain steady honeybee and leafcutter bee populations. The Canadian bee community is generally co-operative in communicating within itself. It's a community that's very proactive in bee breeding and in controlling parasitic mites, which have caused the decline in the States."

In Canadian forests, restrictions in pesticide use have also improved

conditions for pollinators and, in turn, protected the fruit and seeds eaten by wildlife, he says.

The United States spends millions of dollars a year importing alfalfa leafcutting bees from Canada to pollinate alfalfa crops.

"If it weren't for the Canadian leafcutting bee industry in the prairie provinces, U.S. cows would be suffering for lack of quality alfalfa hay," says Kevan.

The U.S. National Research Council report recommends more government support for stricter guidelines around pesticide use and importing bees. It also suggests establishing a network of pollinator monitoring projects among the United States, Canada and Mexico.

There are also simple low-cost practices people can implement in their own backyards that help promote pollinator conservation, says Kevan.

"Planting wildflowers and avoiding highly bred horticultural varieties will provide food and nesting materials for pollinating insects."

He's hoping to set up a mobile pollinator garden that will travel throughout Guelph, Kitchener-Waterloo and Cambridge for public outreach and urban pollinator monitoring.

"We want to take a pickup truck and make a garden on a flatbed and park it in strategic places in cities and see what we get. A similar project in San Francisco attracts pollinators to the mobile flowers within five minutes."

Slide Away Home

CBS student finds that moving rattlers away from people is only a stopgap measure at best

BY ANDREW VOWLES

"ARE YOU SURE you should be doing that?" That's often the first response when someone learns about Jeff Brown's passion for studying rattlesnakes. He understands the reaction: How many people would choose to get close to any snake, much less a feared and potentially deadly one?

But the U of G graduate student's research project saw him seeking out venomous rattlers with the seemingly paradoxical goal of finding ways to keep a safe distance between people and these threatened creatures living in uncomfortably close quarters in the British Columbia interior.

Last month, Brown defended his master's thesis in the Department of Integrative Biology on his two-year

study of managing interactions between humans and rattlesnakes in the Okanagan Valley desert region of southern British Columbia. As in southern Ontario, the spread of development into previously undisturbed habitat is bringing more and more people into contact with rattlers.

The favoured tactic among conservation managers and agencies is to take away "problem" snakes and release them in natural areas nearby. This technique, called short-distance translocation, is often used to separate various wild animals and people while allowing threatened or endangered creatures to remain in their home range.

"Short-range translocation is a very popular management strategy across North America, but there was

almost no research to say whether it worked," says Brown.

His study, completed over two summers, suggests conservation managers need to find better tactics. He found that, in an ophidian take on *The Incredible Journey*, translocated rattlers often slither home a short time later.

Brown worked with western rattlesnakes at the Nk'mip Desert and Cultural Centre in Osoyoos near the B.C.-Washington State border. His project was part of a larger partnership between the Canadian Wildlife Service and the Osoyoos Indian Band.

He monitored 20 snakes outfitted with radio transmitters. Half were moved 500 metres away from their original location; the others remained in place as a control group.

He found that most of the former soon found their way back home, even when they were moved three or more times each summer.

Brown suggests managers consider translocation only as a short-term measure. That will buy time to work on other strategies, including teaching people how to deal with snakes to help prevent accidental or intentional killing of the animals, he says.

"We need to combine translocation with other things. The most important one is public education. There's a lack of public understanding of snakes out there."

Brown, who ran occasional information sessions on rattlesnake safety at the Osoyoos centre, says all three kinds of venomous rattlers found in Canada, including *Crotalus oreganus* in the Okanagan, prefer to avoid human contact and will usually bite only when provoked.

Other measures may include installing "snake fences" around housing tracts, campgrounds or other locations. That's the planned thesis topic of fourth-year wildlife biology student Kyle Horner, who was resident biologist at the desert centre last summer.

Brown learned to work with rattlesnakes in his native Ontario. During his undergraduate years at Guelph, he spent summers tracking eastern Massasauga rattlers around Georgian Bay. He worked with a graduate student of Prof. Ron Brooks' on studies of snake habitat fragmentation and the impact of a

newly built highway. That involved catching and marking snakes for recapture as well as surgically implanting transmitters to track the reptiles' movements.

How do you catch a rattlesnake? "Very carefully," says Brown. "You take a lot of safety precautions."

They wielded three-foot-long metal poles resembling modified golf clubs for lifting and coaxing snakes into pillowcases. In a lab run by the Ministry of Natural Resources in Parry Sound, the snakes were kept in clear plastic bins about the size of a breadbox.

The researchers worked in pairs, one person guiding the snake's head into a plastic tube and holding it in place while the partner took notes—all while trying to ignore the occasional warning rattle emanating from the other end.

"They're incredibly docile," says Brown. "When they see us, all they want to do is get away from us."

He notes that rattlesnake bites in the wild are rare but incredibly painful (he's never been bitten) and hardly ever deadly.

"I wasn't really that anxious or nervous. I've had a fascination for snakes all my life."

Following winter convocation, he plans to look for work in wildlife biology or conservation in Western Canada.

"It's a job where you get paid to go out and answer intriguing questions about animals, and I don't think I could end up with a better job than that."

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Prof. Rene Van Acker is lead author of a report commissioned by the Canadian Wheat Board about novel trait movement and how it might affect crop management and the environment. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Genes on the Move

Research suggests 'tighter leash' to reduce risks from genetically modified crops

BY RACHELLE COOPER

GENETICALLY MODIFIED (GM) crops can produce food with superior qualities, but they may also pose food-safety risks if they mix with other crops, says Prof. Rene Van Acker, new chair of the Department of Plant Agriculture.

"As pharmaceutical and industrial traits are introduced into crop plants, there will in some cases be a greater risk that Canadians will be directly affected by gene flow from crop to crop," says Van Acker. "You shouldn't have to worry about having pharmaceuticals in your morning cereal."

Van Acker, who completed his undergraduate and master's degrees at U of G before obtaining his PhD in England, has a background in weed ecology. But after spending 10 years on faculty at the University of Manitoba, concerns about whether a GM wheat variety should be confined to prevent it from moving into the non-GM stream led him to focus his research on the co-existence of GM and non-GM crops.

Unlike in Europe, where there are strict regulations around confining GM crops, Canada is still developing regulations for novel trait confinement, says Van Acker. Novel plant traits include anything from types of pharmaceutical proteins to herbicide tolerance.

"When you have unconfined release, traits can move and show up in unexpected places. With some of the newer novel traits that may pose direct risks, a confined release system needs to be put in place."

More than 80 per cent of canola grown in Canada and a high proportion of the country's soybean and corn crops are genetically modified. Independent testing of certified canola seed lots from Western Canada revealed that the majority tested contained at least trace amounts of genetically engineered herbicide-tolerance traits. The unregulated movement of this genetic modification has prohibited organic farmers in

the region from growing certified organic canola, says Van Acker, who recently wrote a chapter in an organic production handbook coming out in the United Kingdom about trait confinement protection.

"In Canada, unconfined release has so far been granted only to production traits such as herbicide tolerance, and these pose no quantifiable risk to human health or the environment," he says. "But as the new waves of GM traits are being considered, including the production of inexpensive drugs in plants, we'll have to look at ways to keep these plants on a tighter leash."

Plant trait movement follows many different routes, including via wind or pollinators carrying pollen long distances. Genes also travel great distances when, knowingly or unknowingly, humans transport crop seeds from one location to another, including between continents, he says.

Van Acker, who's the lead author of a report commissioned by the Canadian Wheat Board about novel trait movement and how it might affect crop management and eventually the environment, says the amount of mixing that crops do really depends on the species.

"Some species are more promiscuous than others. Some, like canola, are highly outcrossing species that can also form effective feral (indigenous to roadside) populations. Other species, like soybeans, don't outcross as much and aren't able to produce effective feral populations."

Whether or not transgenic movement is going to be a problem also depends on the specific novel trait, says Van Acker.

"If the trait is deemed to pose no risk to human health or the environment, one could argue that it doesn't matter if it moves around. But if a trait has a definite environmental or human health risk, then we need strict confinement. Crops containing such traits should perhaps not be grown outside."

In Canada, there's a separation

between trait ownership and confinement responsibility, he says. This can pose legal problems because "if there's trait movement outside of the confinement, it's not clear who's responsible for that trait movement and who holds the liability."

Van Acker says there's great potential for his research in Guelph because of all the species to work with in southern Ontario. "I'm looking forward to collaborations," he says.

He adds that the move to U of G this summer was a return home for him and his wife because both of their families live in the area. He says their three children, aged six, eight and 11, will be shocked by how mild Guelph winters are in comparison with the weather they were accustomed to in Winnipeg.

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Costume Sketches a Cut Above

BY ANDREW VOWLES

THE LIMO HAD STOPPED in Toronto to pick up acclaimed British actor Maggie Smith. Bound for Stratford, where Smith would headline in that evening's Stratford Festival production, the actor closed her eyes. Seated with her in the car, Sophie Martin made the final adjustments to the headdress Smith would be wearing on stage, then pronounced it complete. Martin remembers how the actor's eyes sought out the mirror and then turned to her. "She opened her eyes and said, 'Perfect.'"

As a full-time costume cutter, Martin spent about three decades on the road, clothing players in one theatre production after another. She did many of the big ones — Stratford, Shaw, Toronto's CanStage and its predecessor CentreStage — and outfitted many of the marquee names in Canadian theatre productions, including William Hutt, Jessica Tandy, Douglas Campbell, Martha Henry and Fiona Reid. Recalling those days, Martin smiles and repeats her working motto in a voice that, more than half a century after her arrival in Canada, still evokes her roots in wartime Austria: "Have shears, will travel."

This year, part of the evidence of her three-decade-long career came to rest in the U of G Library archives. An oversized box contains almost 75 costume design sketches that served as blueprints for Martin in creating wardrobe items for various productions. These pieces hint at the untold number and variety of costumes she made, never mind the countless hours — many of them 11th hours — that she spent behind the scenes. But there's something special about this particular collection of saved



This costume sketch by Desmond Heeley for a production of *Henry VI* is included in the collection donated by Sophie Martin to the U of G Library. COURTESY OF U OF G LIBRARY

sketches, drawn and painted on everything from artist's papers to cardboard to a sheet of Stratford Festival letterhead.

Most costume sketches stay in the designer's hands, accumulating as a portfolio that may eventually find its way to the archives of a theatre, museum or library. Indeed,

Guelph's L.W. Conolly Collection — the largest Canadian theatre collection in the country — contains such sketches donated along with other theatre memorabilia. But the Sophie Martin collection is the largest stand-alone group of sketches, many signed and inscribed as gifts to the costume cutter by some of the

most respected designers in the business, including Michael Levine, Mark Negan, Hilary Corbett, Peter Wingate and Susan Benson.

"My dear Sophie, thank you for making them all look so splendid," wrote Desmond Heeley on a watercolour and acrylic sketch of the swan queen from a 1979 production of *Swan Lake*. An ink sketch by Cameron Porteous of a cadet in the Shaw Festival's 1983 staging of *Cyrano de Bergerac* reads: "Merci for all the beautiful costumes."

One of the earliest pieces in the collection, along with a *Cyrano* watercolour signed by Tanya Moisewitsch, is a watercolour sketch of Sir Andrew Aguecheek from Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* signed by designer Brian Jackson: "To Sophie, with grateful thanks. Love, Brian, 1962."

A bookend to that piece is a pair of sketches presented upon her retirement in 1993 by Mary Kerr: "For Sophie. What will we do without you to make our dreams?"

Besides the sketches, the collection contains black and white photos from eight productions. One 1988 shot features Fiona Reid and Brent Carver playing in *The Bourgeois Gentleman* at Toronto's Bluma Appel Theatre.

Martin donated her collection earlier this year before her move to a Hamilton-area retirement home from the bouse in Waterdown, Ont., where she'd lived since 1965. During her 30-odd years in the business, she often lived away to be near productions staged in Toronto, Ottawa and Stratford, even Winnipeg and Minneapolis. One year, she returned to Vienna on a Canada Council grant to study men's tailoring. (Among her other accolades, she won a Tyrone Guthrie Award at Stratford.)

It was during her teens in Austria that Martin learned to sew at an art and fashion school. (In the late 1800s, her grandmother worked as a seamstress and fitter for Elizabeth, Empress of Austria.) She met David, her future husband, while he was visiting from Canada to study music.

After moving to Canada, she sewed and made hats for a few productions before graduating to cutting. A cutter uses a designer's sketch to cut out material that will be made into costumes in the production's wardrobe department.

Responsible for most of the wardrobe for anywhere from 10 to 25 players, Martin typically discussed ideas for materials and colours with designers and helped in fitting the actors.

They usually had three to six weeks to pull everything together, although Martin recalls her share of late-night marathons, even making alterations after a particular production had begun.

"The first act was on, and I was still finishing a second-act dress," she says. Apart from that hair-puller, "I always delivered my costumes on time, and that often was quite something."

The importance of costume design was highlighted in a U of G lecture this fall by actor William Hutt, who donated his papers and records this year to the archives. Paraphrasing his words, Lynn Campbell, manager of development and public relations for the McLaughlin Library, says: "Your view of the production is set by what you see on the stage."

Eying the pieces in the Martin collection, Campbell says: "What they do is capture the essence of the production in terms of costumes. They're like mini works of art."

Students Run Second Annual Books for Africa Drive

Last year's drive collected enough books to stock 15 school libraries in Tanzania

AS THE FALL SEMESTER comes to an end, students find themselves with textbooks they may never crack open again. Many can be returned for cash during the campus buyback period, but organizers of

the University's second annual Books for Africa Drive are hoping students with books that aren't eligible for buyback will donate them to help libraries and schools in Africa.

The drive is an initiative organized through Better World Books, a U.S.-based literacy organization that collects books and sells some of them to raise money to ship texts abroad where they're needed most.

"Last year was our first year having the book drive, and it couldn't have been more successful," says Erin Frank, the co-executive chair and public relations director for the U of G drive. "We collected and shipped enough books to Better World Books to stock 15 school libraries in Tanzania."

The drive also generated \$2,200 (Guelph received 50 cents for every

textbook collected that was published after 1999). The money was donated to two selected charities: Habitat for Humanity and Best Buddies, which provides friendship and employment opportunities to people with intellectual disabilities.

According to the Better World Books website, 100 qualifying books donated can fund the shipment of 400 books, enough for an entire classroom in Africa. A thousand books collected translates into a shipment of 4,000 books, which provides enough material for four school libraries.

"Not only is this a great way to

dispose of unwanted books and old textbooks, but it's also a great way to reduce the volume of books going to landfill," says Frank.

The Books for Africa drive will operate alongside the buyback locations in both campus bookstores and in the University Centre until Dec. 15. The drive will resume at the beginning of the winter semester.

For more details or to inquire about making large donations, contact Frank at efrank@uoguelph.ca or co-executive chair Ana Perkovic at aperkovi@uoguelph.ca. For general information about the project, log on to www.betterworldbooks.com.

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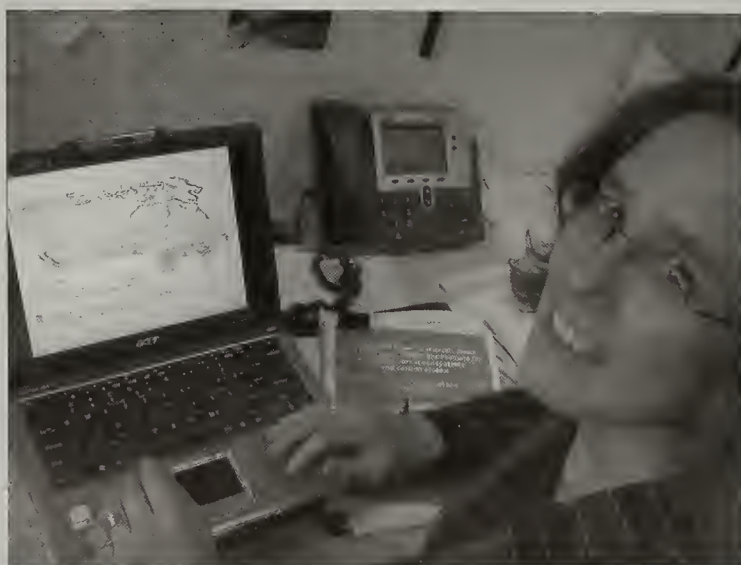
BY ARTHUR CHURCHYARD
SPARK PROGRAM

INVASIVE PESTS could cause even more damage to Canadian trees as the climate warms, say U of G researchers. They've just finished a report linking climate change to the likely spread of pests in Canadian forests and cities.

In the report, Prof. Shelley Hunt, Environmental Biology, maps out areas in Canada that could be invaded by tree pests in a warmer future. She says the predictive maps can help scientists and regulators prepare for new pest invasions.

"We need to be ready for increased pressure from tree pests as the climate warms," says Hunt. "The maps in our report help by drawing a clearer picture of where, when and which invasive species will be able to spread because of higher temperatures."

Her maps focus on four exotic invaders: the brown spruce longhorn beetle, the European wood wasp, the Asian gypsy moth and the Asian long-horned beetle. Using reviews of scientific literature that have tracked the species' trends in Canada, she matched each pest's survival range to temperature models generated using two complex computer programs called the Canadian Coupled Global Circulation Model and the Hadley Circulation Model. These programs predict how high temperatures will rise, based on the expected greenhouse gas emissions in a certain number of years.



Prof. Shelley Hunt has mapped out how climate changes will influence the likely spread of pests in Canadian forests and cities.

PHOTO BY KATE ROBERTS

In this way, Hunt was able to predict just how each invader might take advantage of temperature increases, mapping survival and habitat ranges for the years 2020, 2050 and 2080.

According to the models, increasing greenhouse gases (GHGs) emitted into the atmosphere mean higher temperatures and more treed areas becoming susceptible to attack from

pests, she says. Trees normally store carbon from the atmosphere to use for energy and growth, but when pest damage occurs, trees are less effective carbon "sinks." And when large old trees in a forest are killed by an insect pest, they are replaced with small young trees that store less carbon.

In addition, some tree species store more carbon than others. Oak

trees, for example, have denser wood and store more carbon than pine trees do. If an insect outbreak results in one tree species dying off and being replaced by another, the carbon storage capacity of the forest could change, says Hunt.

The Asian gypsy moth, which feeds on oak leaves, is currently limited by Canada's cold climate. But her report shows that, even under a

low GHG emissions scenario, the climate will be warm enough for the moth to spread widely in every province by 2050.

Warmer temperatures don't just increase the range over which invasive species can survive Canada's cold winters. They also result in a longer growing season for insects, potentially allowing them to produce more generations each year and increasing their populations.

Hunt says there's a long list of invasive species that still need more in-depth research. In addition to the mapped species, her report takes a detailed look at pests such as hemlock woolly adelgid and the emerald ash borer, which recently killed trees lining city streets in Windsor. She notes that insects aren't always the bad guys in forest ecosystems — many native insects have beneficial roles that are still not fully understood.

Hunt hopes her research and maps can ultimately be used to better understand the effects of climate change on forests and to help find measures to control invasive pests.

"Understanding which factors limit pest survival, such as natural predators in native habitats, will lead to effective measures to minimize the impacts of these invasive species," she says.

Other collaborators in this research were Profs. Gard Otis and Jonathan Newman, Environmental Biology. Funding was provided by the BIOCAP Canada Foundation.

Student Calendar Raises Money for Kids' Charity

Class project gives students a chance to put organizational skills to work for a good cause

BY DAVID DICENZO

THERE MAY HAVE BEEN some last-minute worries, but a group of U of G students has completed a class project that will give a big boost to a Toronto-based children's charity. The Student Life 2007 calendar currently circulating around campus and throughout the community has already raised \$5,000 for Variety — The Children's Charity, a group dedicated to promoting inclusion and integration across Ontario.

The calendar, featuring students from across the University, was the brainchild of 14 students enrolled in the organizational behaviour class taught by Prof. Jamie Gruman, Hospitality and Tourism Management. For a class assignment, they were asked to come up with an idea for a

money-raising event or product, and after tossing around suggestions such as an international food night, casino and fashion show, they decided on both a product — the calendar — and an event to launch it.

"The response was good," says B.Comm. student Herman Ortegon-Rico of the \$9 calendars. "Students were more than happy to buy them."

But a week before the calendar went to print, they still had no sponsor. Group member Alex Cormie eventually secured Scotiabank late in the process, and the bank agreed to match the price of every calendar sold and cover production costs,

provided the students pre-sold a set number of calendars.

"The stress was rising," says Ortegon-Rico. "We had four days to sell 200 calendars. We went crazy trying to sell them around the University." But they achieved their goal.

He says the 14 students relied on personal and professional contacts for both the production of the calendar and the sales. The calendar photos were taken by his roommate, art history major Seth Gerry.

Gruman gave students in his course the option of doing their class project for profit or for charity, and

Ortegon-Rico's group opted for the latter. That decision ended up being a motivational tool to get the project completed despite the few snags along the way, he says.

"The kids' charity was the biggest point here. Everyone brought their own abilities to it."

About 300 calendars have been sold to date, with sales continuing until the end of January. The group will then present a cheque to the charity. The calendars can be purchased at the downtown Scotiabank or by contacting Ortegon-Rico at borteagon@uoguelph.ca.

Photo Contest Winner Announced

THE PHOTO in *At Guelph's* "Where Are You Now?" column Nov. 22 was of the cactus garden in the School of Engineering that is a memorial to the 14 women killed Dec. 6, 1989, at Montreal's École Polytechnique.

The following people correctly identified the photo: Danny Martin, John Van Manen, Sue Lewis,

Kevin Kerr, James Godsmark, Haley Piagno, Gillian Maurice and Alf Conley.

The names of everyone who has identified photos published since September were entered in a draw for a \$50 gift certificate provided by the U of G Bookstore. The winner is Debbie Billington of Teaching Support Services.

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These memories don't even come close to describing all the stories I could share about the Meal Exchange program, but I mention these ones because they capture the essence of mentorship: the sharing and creation of stories.

There are many elements of a captivating story:

- The beginning is extremely important—it has to grab your attention or you'll quickly lose interest.
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Each generation of Meal Exchange encounters these same elements — and challenges — year after year, although each team meets and overcomes them differently with their own unique gifts and experiences.

Each generation composes a new chapter in the continuing story, each building on the previous one and strengthening the plot.

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They allow you to see past the bars and local hangouts downtown and see the bodies shivering in the

cold that so often go ignored.

They help you see that the only thing separating one side of the serving line and the other is circumstance.

They challenge you to turn fear into compassion, to dispel stereotypes and to discover the human family.

They demonstrate that waiting until you graduate to have an impact in your community is nonsense.

They give you the confidence to motivate others and know in your soul that a small group of committed people truly can accomplish things beyond your wildest dreams.

These are the values of Meal Exchange being bound in our book. These are the tales it teaches, just as traditions are passed down in every culture around our world. I anxiously await the captivating chapters that are yet to be written.

Leisha Zamecnik

THANKS FOR SUPPORT

On behalf of the University of Guelph Police Association, I would like to thank the students, faculty and staff who signed a petition in support of retaining our status as police officers at U of G.

I'm pleased to say that, with your support and that of many others, including the University of Guelph administration, the ministry has decided that we, as well as the four other current university police services in Ontario, will keep the name "police." Thank you again for your support.

Special Const. Jim Armstrong
University of Guelph Police

* * *

At Guelph welcomes letters to the editor. They should be limited to 500 words and submitted electronically to Barbara Chance at b.chance@exec.uoguelph.ca.

NORM PURDIE

Post-doctoral researcher in the Department of Animal and Poultry Science since 2005

Most people's experience of tropical fish involves looking at them in a pet store, but Australian-born Norm Purdie has enjoyed a different perspective. While living in Rockhampton on the Tropic of Capricorn, he would boat out and take regular dips on the Great Barrier Reef, snorkelling his way to some "amazing" underwater scenery.

Fish have been a lifelong interest of his. "As a small child, I had tiny fish tanks," says Purdie. "We'd get guppies from the local creek and yabbies, which are little freshwater crayfish."

After moving to Canada, he was keen to set up a tropical freshwater fish tank, so when he saw an ad for a 65-gallon tank up for sale, he jumped at it. He now has about 25 different species, including angel fish, which he calls "the bosses of the tank."

Not just any species will do. Purdie is committed to achieving eye-catching esthetics in his tank.

"I try to get a different colour pattern," he says, noting that there are no vacancies in his tank at the moment. "Every time I buy new fish, I try to bring colours out. For a long time, I didn't have television after arriving here. My fish tank was my television. I would sit there, read my scientific papers and watch the fish. It's like the screensaver people have — only I had the real thing."

Purdie is also a huge soccer fan, having taken up the sport at an early age. He played at a high level in Australia, taking part in Queensland championships. Here at Guelph, he's part of a University-based team that recently won an intramural championship.



Norm Purdie

STEPHANIE MARAGNA

Fourth-year student in sociology

Stephanie Maragna isn't sure what her professional life will entail when she graduates in 2007, but she does have a clear idea of what she'll be doing for recreation.

"My main form of activity is rock climbing," she says. "I try to get out on a weekly basis. I go for a few hours, and by the time I'm finished, I'm really tired and really sore. I'm clearly not in the best of shape, but I'm working my way up."



Stephanie Maragna

Maragna, who hails from Toronto, also participates in adventure racing and orienteering, a competitive form of land navigation. Since the orienteering season has wrapped up, she's put more time into rock climbing, which she was introduced to by a friend whose brother runs a climbing club.

"I really like the difficulty of it," she says. "It's fun and a great way to work out. And I like the idea of being able to take that indoor rock climbing experience and apply it to the outdoors."

That could very well mean a post-graduation excursion to Western Canada to rock climb and do "fun, adventurous stuff," she says.

PAULA BRAUER

Faculty member in the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition since 1999

Like any academic, Prof. Paula Brauer is a voracious reader, but when the time comes to kick back and relax, she'll gladly opt for a piece of science fiction over a nutrition journal. The Vancouver native was drawn to the genre as a child, growing up in a generation where space and an unknown future became major focal points.

"I was a science groupie when I was a kid and I kept with that," says Brauer. "It was the idea of a future that was different from what we already had. What I liked about it was the opportunity to think outside the current constraints, like how would society be different if Hitler hadn't been defeated?"

These days, she gets her sci-fi fix from Isaac Asimov's popular short-story magazine. "It tends to be new authors and different voices within the science fiction genre," she says. "It's not so much shoot-'em-up kind of stuff but more about, if you change the parameters, how would society develop? I find it quite interesting."

Brauer also enjoys spending time in the garden and the kitchen. Despite her professional devotion to nutrition, she admits she has a bit of a sweet tooth, with poppyseed cake and Icelandic torte being two of her can't-miss desserts.

Between starting her PhD at age 42 and raising three children, Brauer hasn't had a lot of extra time on her hands in recent years, but with the youngest child now moved out of the house, she and her husband are enjoying more plays and concerts, in addition to their annual trek back west to the Rockies to hike with friends every August. "We're starting to have more free time," she says. "It's just a matter of figuring out what we want to do with it."



Paula Brauer

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The Puck Plops Here

Underwater hockey a 25-year tradition at U of G

BY DAVID DICENZO

AT AGE 70, Tom Elliott knows it's essential that he warm up properly before playing hockey. Each Sunday night before a practice game, he stretches thoroughly, then hops into U of G's gold pool to do laps, staying beneath the surface as long as he can. He's not looking to improve his cardio and breath-holding capacity so he can perform better on the ice — the hockey he plays is underwater.

Elliott is the elder statesman of the local underwater hockey community and has been a mentor with the University's Guelph Flounders club since it began 25 years ago.

Hockey may be a favourite pastime in Canada, but in this version of the game, helmets, skates and elbow pads have been replaced with masks, snorkels and fins.

"It's exciting, like any other sport," says Elliott while breaking between laps. "It's the same concept as ice hockey. The reason I've played so long is because it's low-impact. You get a good anaerobic workout, build up red blood cells. And then there's the social part of it."

Underwater hockey has taken the retired Hamilton Philharmonic bassoonist around the world to places like Scotland, South Africa and Argentina, where the sport's close-knit community has always welcomed him to play in tournaments or just a pick-up game. Elliott took up the sport in 1977 and has been an invaluable resource for Flounders members ever since, teaching them how to play and even passing along the names of his many international contacts, says fourth-year biomedical sciences student Chris Fabian, a member and former president of the Guelph club.



The College Royal Underwater Hockey Tournament hosted by the Guelph Flounders each year draws teams from across North America. Pictured here are members of the Roger Bacon High School team from Cincinnati, Ohio.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ROGER BACON HIGH SCHOOL

"Octopush," the original incarnation of the sport, was invented in England in the 1950s as a training method for underwater divers to improve fitness and lung capacity. The game spread rapidly and is now played in more than 25 countries around the globe.

Renowned underwater hockey coach Terry Brown introduced the sport to U of G back in the early 1980s, and the Flounders have evolved into one of the better clubs in the country, travelling whenever and wherever they can to find a game, says Fabian, who actually learned the game from Brown as a high school student in Kincardine.

"Terry was teaching snorkelling in Kincardine and was starting a club there, so he got me and a bunch of other students to come out and try the sport," says Fabian. "It took off

from there. I think it's kind of neat that I became president of the club he started so many years ago."

Underwater hockey involves two teams with six players per side, usually positioned in some variation of three forwards and three defenders. A brass puck is placed at the centre of the pool bottom, with a gong signalling the faceoff. Carrying foot-long sticks, players race to gain possession of the puck and try to shoot it into a three-metre-long trough to score goals. Matches consist of two halves totalling 20 to 30 minutes, depending on the club and event. Official games have referees — both in and out of the pool — who communicate calls through hand signals.

Timing is an important part of the game because players have to break the surface regularly to grab

some air, says Fabian. This up-and-down aspect of the sport adds another wrinkle — you can attack, or be attacked, from any direction.

"The big thing with this sport is that it's really important to play as a team," he says. "You have to stick with your teammates because that's how you can make plays and pass the puck around. Once you get to a high level, it's really a fast sport. The puck is never standing still. If you get a pass at the higher-level games and you're not doing something with it right away, you're going to lose it."

Fabian adds, however, that the beauty of underwater hockey is that literally anyone can play, regardless of experience or fitness level. Some members of the Guelph Flounders are elite players, but others are just out to have fun, he says. And the mix

works just fine.

"I'm not nearly as competitive as some players, but that's what I like about the club — you don't have to be," says Kathy Unger, a fourth-year wildlife biology student from Bowmanville now in her third season suiting up with the Flounders. Unger says it was her longtime love of water sports that drew her to underwater hockey.

"I've tried pretty much everything — swimming, water polo, scuba diving. Underwater hockey is just so much fun. You don't have to be the fastest swimmer because of the fins. You don't have to be really good at stick handling. It helps, but you can just play at a minimum skill level and get better fast."

The highlight of the year for the Flounders is the annual College Royal Underwater Hockey Tournament they host at U of G's gold pool each March. Teams come from across North America to play in the pool, which is ideal for the sport because it's all one depth, says Fabian. Last year, he had to limit the entries to 16 teams to ensure that all participants had enough playing time.

Elliott says he's pleased to see students like Fabian and Unger taking active roles in the club. It's that kind of commitment that will keep it going strong and even add to the long tradition, he says.

"It's hard to get people interested in this sport because they think it's weird, but once you get used to it, it's just like any other game."

Fabian notes that the uniqueness of the sport creates a special bond among the people who play it.

"Tell someone you play ice hockey, and they probably won't think much of it. But meet another underwater hockey player, and you've just made a new friend."

Stamping Out Junk E-Mail

Use free spam filtering service to rid mailbox of those annoying e-mail messages, says CCS

NO TOOL has had a greater impact on communication than e-mail. But it seems that for every e-mail you send, you get 10 in return, many of them unsolicited bulk e-mails that take up space in your inbox. Spam is an irritating reality to anyone who spends significant time on a computer.

Over the past year, U of G has seen roughly a 100-per-cent increase in the volume of e-mail coming through its servers, with a disproportionate spike in spam, says Paul Briggs, manager of campus services in Computing and Communications Services (CCS). Of the one million-plus messages that reach the servers daily, CCS prevents about a third from even entering the campus, he says. Another third are identified as spam and blocked from reaching inboxes.

"But for the remaining third actually delivered to inboxes, it's ex-

remely difficult to determine which e-mails are spam, while leaving legitimate e-mails unaffected," he says.

The University has expended many resources trying to filter spam in a way that weeds out unwanted messages without eliminating legitimate ones, says Briggs. In consultation with the U of G community, CCS has adopted an approach that allows users to set their own level of tolerance of spam through the use of a free spam filtering service introduced in 2004.

"This service is a proven tool in the fight against spam on campus," he says. "We highly recommend it to anyone who's receiving excessive amounts of spam. Unfortunately, less than 25 per cent of the University community is using the service, so we clearly need to do a better job of getting the message out."

The filtering service works by inspecting the content of each e-mail,

using a series of tests for common spam characteristics, then assigning a score to each message. The higher the score, the higher the probability it's spam. When users sign up for the service online, a couple of clicks allow them to establish their own thresholds of tolerance for spam. E-mail identified as spam is then either redirected to a spam folder for later inspection or deleted, depending on those thresholds.

The filtering service also includes a block/accept list for added protection, says Briggs. This enables users to selectively block spam from known addresses or to ensure that e-mail from legitimate sources gets through. By carefully selecting their filter levels and setting their own customized block/accept list, users can greatly reduce the amount of spam in their inbox, he says.

CCS also encourages the use of local mail client filters. Briggs notes

that this technique works well with mail clients such as Thunderbird, Netscape and IE but can cause performance slowdowns in WebMail.

Bo Wandschneider, associate director of CCS, says he doesn't see much spam in his inbox, thanks to taking full advantage of the defences available on campus.

"Don't get me wrong, I get lots of spam," he says. "It's just redirected to my junk and spam folders, and I don't need to worry about it."

Wandschneider says he occasion-

ally inspects these folders to make sure the filters are working well and, if need be, to go in and tweak his thresholds.

"What qualifies as spam is a continually moving target, so when new spam messages come up, I can quickly use one click with my Thunderbird filter, and I never see any more of those messages."

Learn more about the spam filtering service by contacting your local IT support person or visiting www.uoguelph.ca/ccs/email.

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Sanders Portrait to Be Centrepiece of Exhibit

Continued from page 1

"Shakespeare — Made in Canada" will be formally launched Jan. 11 at 7:15 p.m. at a free public event at the art centre. The evening will feature tours, performances and remarks by honorary patron William Hutt, chancellor Lincoln Alexander, president Alastair Summerlee and Guelph mayor Karen Farbridge. MSAC will also host a lecture by portrait owner Lloyd Sullivan Jan. 12 and a special day for families Jan. 13.

MSAC is devoting 80 per cent of its show space to the Shakespeare exhibit, the largest show the centre has ever mounted, says director Judith Nasby. The theatrical, visual arts and multimedia display will remain at the art centre for an unprecedented six months, closing June 10. Many of the art and cultural materials have been borrowed from more than 100 individual and corporate collections.

The exhibits range from theatrical set designs and the 17th-century fascination with mathematics to native Canadian adaptations of Shakespeare and the francophone relationship with his plays. Changes in portraiture from Shakespeare's time to the present will be showcased, and the Donald Forster Sculpture Park will offer a unique audio installation that focuses on the continuing influence of the Bard's words.

Other displays draw on the Stratford Festival's archives and the U of G Library's Canadian theatre archives. In addition, elementary and high school students will learn about the science behind authenticating portraits.

The centrepiece of the MSAC exhibit is the Sanders portrait, which is thought to depict the Bard at age 39 and has been in Sullivan's family for 400 years. At one time, it was stored

under his grandmother's bed. Sullivan inherited it from his mother in 1972.

It's believed that Shakespeare sat for an ancestor of Sullivan's, an unknown actor and painter called John Sanders, in 1603. The portrait has been confirmed by years of forensic studies to date from around 1600, and it has not been altered since.

The Sanders portrait was the subject of the 2001 book *Shakespeare's Face* and is used by the Stratford Festival of Canada. It's also the signature image of U of G's Canadian Adaptations of Shakespeare Project (CASP), which has the largest and most complete website in the world dedicated to showing the playwright's cultural influence on Canada.

CASP is headed by English pro-

fessor Daniel Fischlin, who is responsible for bringing the portrait to Guelph. He contacted Sullivan to obtain the rights to use the image of the controversial Sanders portrait, and the two became friends.

The portrait was also part of "Searching for Shakespeare," an international exhibit by the National Portrait Gallery in London that toured North America this year. It joined the gallery's famous Chandos painting and four other early "contender" portraits purporting to represent Shakespeare. It marked the first time the portraits had been displayed together.

Highlights of "Shakespeare — Made in Canada" festival events in January and February include:

- Jan. 16 to April 1: "A Guelph

Child's Perspective on Shakespeare," Guelph Children's Museum.

- Jan. 14: "Shakespeare and Music," the Gallery Chamber Players, Wellington County Museum and Archives.

- Jan. 27: "Willy at the Woolly" featuring the Great Wooden Trio, Woolwich Arms.

- Jan. 28 and Feb. 11: film festival, McLaughlin Library.

- Jan. 31 to Feb. 3: *All My Sins Remembered*, Fergus Grand Theatre.

- Feb. 3, "Eat, Drink and Be Merry," a culinary feast of food and drink at the River Run Centre and a fundraiser for the Edward Johnson Music Foundation.

- Feb. 9: "Much Ado About Letter-

ing," Royal City Calligraphy Guild, Guelph Civic Museum.

- Feb. 9 to April 29: "As You Like It: A History of Shakespearean Performances in Guelph," Guelph Civic Museum.

- Feb. 16, *Bell, Book and Candle*, River Run Centre.

- Feb. 18, Shakespeare concert, Guelph Symphony Orchestra, River Run Centre.

A full listing of events is available on the website www.shakespearemadeincanada.ca.

Also in the works: Local bed and breakfasts, hotels, restaurants and shops are working to create promotions and packages that will bring people to Guelph-Wellington for repeat visits during the festival.

CFI Awards Boost Physical, Life Sciences

Continued from page 1

such as advanced alloys and polymers, novel batteries, food science and petroleum products.

Twenty-eight researchers spanning physics, chemistry, geology, biology, engineering and environmental science are involved.

"I'm extremely pleased," says Kyica. "Canada will now have one of the best X-ray facilities in the world for studying the structure of many types of new materials. It will likely enable discovery and open the doorway for revolutionary technologies that are currently unforeseen. This will lead to significant opportunities for Canadian materials researchers in both academia and industry."

Lipkowski will use his \$2.7-million grant to enhance infrastructure

in Guelph laboratories that conduct leading-edge life science and soft materials research involving biomolecules, cells and bacteria.

The project includes 24 investigators at Guelph and more than 100 post-doctoral researchers and students and fosters collaborations among the College of Biological Science, the College of Physical and Engineering Science and the Ontario Agricultural College.

"This is tremendous news for interdisciplinary research at the University of Guelph," says Lipkowski. "It brings electrochemistry and physics to biology, and biology to electrochemistry and physics. Because of the availability of the infrastructure, we will be able to offer

challenging, innovative research projects that will attract the best and most motivated individuals. Last but not least, this award recognizes and builds upon the substantial achievements of the Centre for Food and Soft Materials Science and the Electrochemical Technology Centre."

Garrett is heading a neutron detector array that involves 11 researchers from across Canada. The \$656,000 grant they received from CFI will be used to construct a "world-unique" device that allows scientists to detect and measure the particles much more directly.

"This will enable us to perform experiments that we could not do otherwise, providing us with a tool to probe such questions as the origin

of the elements in the universe and the nature of matter under extreme conditions," he says.

The equipment will be built at TRIUMF, Canada's national laboratory for particle and nuclear physics in Vancouver.

"It will form one of the cornerstones of my own research program, as well as that of other Guelph and Canadian scientists," says Garrett. He adds that CFI was a major factor in his decision to return to Canada in 2004 from a permanent position at a U.S. national laboratory.

"The possibility of funding capital equipment through CFI was a very attractive incentive for me and makes Canadian universities competitive with our U.S. counterparts."

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Fisher-Price infant bouncy seat, excellent condition; steam sterilizer; infant girl's clothes, sizes up to 12 months; black chain-link gate with hardware, Ext. 56111 or lauricha@uoguelph.ca.

Glass console/entrance black metal table, semi-circular design; Edge 100 portable stepper with electronic monitor; five Billy Blanks boxing tapes with workout bands; Homedics Spa footbath; Omron blood pressure monitor, all never used, 519-837-4378 or estarr@gmail.com.

IKEA white bookcase/shelving unit, about five by five feet with four shelves, 519-837-3809.

Samsung Upconverting HDMI DVD player, model HD860, never used, still in box, Brenda, Ext. 58176 or mic@physics.uoguelph.ca.

1997 Hyundai Elantra wagon, five-speed manual, some newer parts, needs minor repairs, 205,000 km, 519-822-3832.

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Three-bedroom private country home in Puslinch, 2½ baths; garage, 10 minutes from campus, no pets, available Dec. 17 to April 1, 2007, \$1,050 a month inclusive, Ext. 58552 or 519-836-2714.

Furnished cottage in North Carolina, Pinehurst vicinity, sleeps five, reasonable rates, available by week or month, see photos at www.geocities.com/lieuallen/PeterHouse/index.html, 910-947-1659 after 6 p.m.

Furnished or unfurnished one-bedroom modern loft close to downtown and campus, parking, laundry, fireplace, central air, all amenities, suitable for professionals, mature students or faculty on sabbatical, rent negotiable, 519-763-7639 or guelphloft4rent@hotmail.com.

Two-bedroom apartment in heritage stone building close to downtown, quiet neighbourhood, park-like setting, sunroom, four appliances, parking for two vehicles, available Jan. 1, \$985 a month, 519-835-5575 or bgreen@rlproyalcity.com.

Furnished two-bedroom apartment in downtown century stone building, laundry, suitable for visiting prof, professional or grad student, available Jan. 1 (or earlier) to April 2007, rent negotiable, Frank, 519-836-6666 or fmarchetti4@rogers.com.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in southwest Paris, France, short-term rental; furnished two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, weekly or monthly, Nicole, 519-836-6745 or fnmoll@rogers.com.

Part-time nanny for two two-year-olds in our home in old University area, flexible hours, good wages, beginning week of Jan. 8, Heidi, hnbailey@uoguelph.ca.

WANTED

Bassist for local four-piece jam/funk combo, someone with a good groove and great attitude, must have own gear, rehearsals and gigs are local, 519-829-1731.

Non-smoking males aged 40 to 60 for study on dietary fat in the

Department of Human Health and Nutritional Sciences, four-day commitment required in January/February, financial compensation, Ext. 56967 or drobin01@uoguelph.ca.

Accommodation for quiet, mature professional and a friendly beagle, needed until April 2007 with possibility of extension, parking, laundry, all amenities, guthrie.glenn@gmail.com.

Experienced, responsible housekeeper or sabbatical tenant seeking furnished non-shared accommodation in Guelph for winter term, non-smoker, references, dates flexible, Ext. 58434 or mboyd@uoguelph.ca.

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EVENTS

ARBORETUM

Theatre in the Trees presents *There's a Burglar in My Bed* by Michael Parker Dec. 8, 9, 15 and 16. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.; showtime is 8 p.m. Cost is \$59. To order tickets, call Ext. 54110.

Horticulturist Sean Fox offers a workshop on conifers Jan. 16 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$50. Registration and payment are due by Jan. 2.

Josh Sayers leads a workshop on winter trees Jan. 20 from 1 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$25. Deadline for registration and payment is Jan. 5.

NOTICES

The U of G/OMAFRA research program invites submissions for new research proposals from faculty and college researchers for the resources management and environment program. Proposals must address program goals approved by OMAFRA and must be submitted in a specific format by Feb. 5. For information, visit www.uoguelph.ca/research/omafra/index.shtml (click on "Call for Proposals, Forms and Procedures") or call the Office of Research at 519-826-3809.

Representatives of Elsevier, the biggest publisher of scholarly journals, will visit campus Dec. 14 to talk to faculty and graduate students about how to get published with Elsevier,

its electronic resources and its newest products. Sessions run from 10:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in McLaughlin 384. For details, contact Jane Burpee at jburpee@uoguelph.ca.

Special Const. Jim Armstrong of Campus Community Police will stage a fundraiser for the Guelph Food Bank Dec. 12, playing piano in the UC courtyard from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for cash donations.

SEMINARS

The Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology graduate student seminar series presents Veronica Kos discussing "A Review of Class IIa Bacteriocins" Dec. 8. On Dec. 15, April Johannis considers "Infectious Causes of Multiple Sclerosis." The seminars are at 12:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 115.

"Myelin Basic Protein — Conformational Adaptability and Multifunctionality in Myelin" is the focus of Prof. George Harauz, Cellular and Molecular Biology, in the Department of Pathobiology seminar series Dec. 15 at 2 p.m. in Pathobiology 2106.

TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services hosts the final session in the "Women in Academia" series Dec. 12, with discussion to focus on advice from senior

colleagues. Panelists are Prof. Maureen Mancuso, vice-president (academic); Prof. Isobel Heathcote, dean of graduate studies; Prof. Valerie Davidson, Engineering; and Janet Kaufman, head of information services, U of G Library. Register at www.tss.uoguelph.ca.

For instructors and instructional support staff who run online WebCT courses, TSS is offering a session on the Gradebook and a guided workshop, both on Dec. 12. Individual WebCT assistance is also available at drop-in clinics Dec. 8 and 15 from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. in McLaughlin 200A. For more details, visit www.tss.uoguelph.ca. If you have questions, call Mary Nairn at Ext. 53571.

THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Katarina Kaluzny, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, is Dec. 7 at 9 a.m. in Room 1511 of the science complex. The thesis is "Investigation of the Wzy Alpha and Beta O-antigen Polymerases in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*." The adviser is Prof. Joe Lam.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Marina Amato, Integrative Biology, is Dec. 15 at 9 a.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "Phylogeography of *Glyptemys insculpta* in Relation to General

Herpetofaunal Distribution Patterns in Eastern North America." The advisers are Profs. Ron Brooks and Jinzhong Fu.

The final examination of Noel Harrington, a PhD candidate in the Department of Pathobiology, is Dec. 18 at 1 p.m. in Pathobiology 101. The thesis is "Immune Responses of Cervids (*Cervus elaphus*) to Mycobacterium Bovis Infection: Potential for Immunodiagnostics." The adviser is Prof. John Prescott.

The final examination of Susan Healey, a PhD candidate in rural studies, is Dec. 21 at 1:30 p.m. in Landscape Architecture 143. The thesis is "Bolivia in the Age of Reckoning: The Peasant-Indigenous Struggle for Sustainable Rural Communities." The adviser is Prof. Tony Winson, Sociology and Anthropology.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis is staging a candlelight vigil Dec. 6 to commemorate the National Day of Remembrance and Action in Violence Against Women. It begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Boathouse.

Theatre Guelph presents the family comedy *Dear Santa* by Norm Foster Dec. 8 to 10, 13 to 15, 16 and 17 at the River Run Centre. For more information, call 519-763-3000 or visit www.riverrun.ca.

Wellington County Museum and Archives holds its annual Christmas festival Dec. 10 from noon to 4 p.m.

The Guelph Chamber Choir conducted by Gerald Neufeld performs Handel's *Messiah* Dec. 23 at 8 p.m. at the River Run Centre. For ticket information, call 519-763-3000.

The Guelph Storytellers Guild presents an evening of storytelling Dec. 13 at 8 p.m. at the Boathouse. Special guest teller is James Gordon. Admission is free, but donations for Sister Christine's drop-in centre are welcome.

Guelph Youth Singers is holding mid-year auditions this month for the January 2007 term. Children and youth aged six to 12 who love to sing are welcome to attend. For more information or to book an audition, call 519-821-8574 or send e-mail to admin@guelphyouthsingers.com.

The Royal City Quilters' Guild hosts a deli and bake sale and demo night Dec. 12 at 7:15 p.m. at Three Willows United Church, 577 Willow Rd. For information, call 519-824-0768.

Emmanuel United Church at 22 Bridgeport Rd. W. in Waterloo is hosting a concert by Canadian singer-songwriter Heather Dale Dec. 8 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the door or by calling 519-886-1471.

Television Film Crew Returns to Campus

U of G plays the part of Boston university in series set to debut in 2007

BY LORI BONA HUNT

THE TELEVISION production company that is filming a new series at U of G will be back on campus Dec. 7 and 8. Most of the filming will take place outside Macdonald Hall and the Ontario Veterinary College.

Once again, a "base camp" of about 10 tractor-trailers has been set up in P13, the parking lot east of the Eccles Centre and South Residences. In addition, about eight trucks that supply hydro and other essential services to the film crew will be parked along Macdonald Lane both days. Vehicle traffic will be restricted to one lane during this period.

The Dec. 8 shoot will run from 4 p.m. to 4 a.m., but lighting will be restricted to the exterior of OVC and noise levels kept to a minimum.

The series, called *The Best Years*, is a

one-hour drama that will air on CHTV in Canada starting in 2007 and on The N, a cable network channel in the United States. The N is owned by Viacom Inc., which runs more than 120 networks around the world, including MTV, VH1, Nickelodeon, Nick at Nite, Comedy Central, CMT and Spike TV.

The Best Years follows 19-year-old orphan Samantha Best to university and chronicles the social, educational and personal challenges she and her friends face.

"*The Best Years* is about forgetting who you were, discovering who you want to be and finding the friends who'll get you there," says Aaron Martin, the show's creator and executive producer. Martin previously served as the head writer and show runner for *Degrassi: The Next Generation*.

"This is a dream cast, hand-picked from across Canada and the United States, playing

'bright young things' as they navigate the social wilderness of university life," he says. The series stars Charity Shea, who appeared in the film *Alpha Dog*.

The series is set in Boston. Guelph's walkways and buildings will appear on the small screen as the fictitious Charles University, and some U of G students will appear as extras. Most of the interior scenes for the series are being shot at the Toronto Film Studios. There, crews have re-created student residence rooms and common areas based on those found on Guelph's campus.

Prof. Pat Flood, English and Theatre Studies, recently took students enrolled in her course "Production Design for Film and Television" to Toronto for a tour of the set.

"The art director and head carpenter took us through some of their standing sets for the series and introduced us to the graphic de-

signer and the set designer," says Flood. "They all talked to us about the work they do and pointed out interesting features of the set."

She says the visit was a practical illustration of the work done in her class.

"I wanted the students to see real sets in a studio so they could better understand how to approach their final project — designing the set and doing a storyboard for a particular production. I also think it's very useful for students to meet professionals in the field because it lets them see how the theory is applied. And it's very useful for me when a professional reinforces something I've said in class."

All revenues the University receives from location fees paid by the TV production company will be used to benefit students and the campus, ranging from supporting residential programs to dealing with deferred maintenance and improving parking lots.

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